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Japanese Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa, accompanied by Faisal Hussein (back, right), meets Jericho residents yesterday. (Brian Handberg)

Japan promises aid to Palestinians

JAPAN will keep its promise to release \$200 million in aid to the Palestinians over the next two years. Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa told Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Faisal Hussein yesterday.

Kakizawa told reporters that money is earmarked for "building

housing for the [Palestinian] police, housing for Palestinian refugees, and aid for a hospital in Jericho." A total of \$50 million has already been spent on medical equipment and develop-

ment projects. Kakizawa promised Rabin that he would bring up the issue of the MIAs during his upcoming visit to Syria for the multilateral talks on regional cooperation. He noted that he was present

at Wednesday's signing ceremony. After noting that he was in the audience, Rabin quipped that it was better to be there than on stage, alluding to his open quarrel with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat over the signing of the maps.

DAVID MAKOVSKY

International observers for Hebron arrive

JON IMMANUEL

MOST of the 160-member international observer mission in Hebron arrived yesterday from Copenhagen to take up a three-month posting in the city. The group, from Norway, Denmark and Italy, is to patrol the streets unarmed and will report to a four-man committee, including the mayor of Hebron and the military governor. They are to wear special uniforms and patrol in cars with special license plates. Israel TV said 114 members arrive. The observers are scheduled to begin patrols next Monday. The mission, called the Temporary International Presence in Hebron (TIPH), has a three-month

mandate which can be extended if both Israelis and Palestinians agree. Israel agreed to the international presence after the PLO demanded it following the massacre of 29 Palestinians in the Machpela Cave. Meanwhile, the IDF announced the easing of restrictions on Hebron residents in the town center, saying that residents would be permitted to be out until the evening, instead of 2 p.m. at present. The army will also permit the opening of the wholesale market, and is working on security arrangements next to the Cave of Machpela which will take at least five weeks to complete, aimed at reopening the cave at that time.

South Yemen bombs north Yemeni capital

SAN'A (Reuters) - Explosions rocked the northern Yemeni capital of San'a yesterday and planes flying over the city drew anti-aircraft fire, residents said. The explosions appeared to be from an air raid by rival southern fighter jets. The anti-aircraft fire continued for 15 minutes and came from the southern and eastern parts of the city. San'a airport was targeted earlier by southern planes and is in the north of the city. Almost exactly four years after north and south united, the artillery and anti-aircraft fire thundering across the capital provoked panic in parts of the city, home to 1.5 million people. One wave of planes flew over

the darkened city, drawing heavy anti-aircraft fire for 30 minutes. Shortly afterwards, other jets roared overhead and the night sky was lit by heavy gunfire. The northern military command in San'a said earlier its forces shot down five southern aircraft that had raided northern airports yesterday. It said fighting was spreading along the former north-south border and described southern leader, the country's vice-president, Ali Salem al-Baidh as "a war criminal and a traitor." France said yesterday it would evacuate French and European Union citizens from Yemen's port of Aden because of the fighting. Full story, Page 4

Israeli, PLO security officials meet in Gaza

JON IMMANUEL

ISRAELI and Palestinian security officials met yesterday in the Gaza Strip for the first time to discuss the transfer of police and army installations, but no date was fixed for their handover.

No facilities were handed over, though earlier it had been thought that one or two might be. It is now likely that all the buildings will be transferred together. "The Palestinians do not want a power vacuum," a senior military officer said.

"We are leaving Gaza in order not to return," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said on the New Channel 2 last night. "We had left Gaza from 1957 until 1967, and these were the quietest years the State of Israel ever had. Whoever says that by leaving Gaza you are endangering the security of Israel simply does not know history."

Military sources said the Israeli delegation consisted of police and senior IDF officers. There were 12 delegates on each side, and they met in the civil administration offices just inside the Erez checkpoint for four hours.

Later, Gaza police chief Cmdr. David Sadeh took the Palestinians to police headquarters in Gaza City, recently repainted in blue

and white, and four other police installations.

The Palestinian delegation was headed by Mahmoud Asfour, a brigadier-general in the Palestine Liberation Army, who was in civilian clothes.

The Palestinians had arrived Wednesday night from Cairo, and will be coordinating the orderly entry into Gaza of over a thousand Palestinian policemen, who are expected early next week.

Future meetings are expected to focus on implementing the agreement on security cooperation, which will be more complex than the handover of police authority.

Israel will be retaining control of "35%-40%" of the Gaza Strip after the withdrawal, a senior army officer said, explaining the intricate web of Israeli, Palestinian, and joint patrols

which are to keep the peace.

"There is, I think, no precedent anywhere for this arrangement," said Col. Shuki Shichori, a senior officer in Gaza headquarters and former deputy Gaza commander.

"Some roads will be for Palestinians only, some for Israelis only, and they will meet at the junctions. This is where the joint patrols will operate," Shichori told a briefing at the Erez crossing.

The Muasssi agricultural area inside Gush Katif will remain in Israeli hands for security purposes, but civil authority over the 5,000 Arabs who live there will be in Palestinian hands, he said.

Southern Command sources said that even though PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat had asked Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to delay withdrawal by about two weeks, the Palestinian officers

(Continued on Page 2)

Gaza Prison closed, nearly 450 inmates freed

THE Israeli authorities yesterday closed down Gaza Prison, freeing almost all its 450 inmates.

The prison will shortly be transferred to the Palestinian Authority, said military sources in the Gaza Strip.

The sources stressed that the

prison is undergoing major maintenance and cleaning prior to the transfer.

Several Hamas members were not released and were moved to other prisons, but were moved to Ketziot and Ashkelon prisons.

Aton Pinkas

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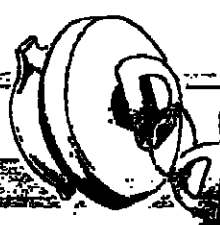
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Plans being made to absorb Gush Katif settlers in Negev

AMIR ROZENBLIT

FOLLOWING inquiries by families from Gush Katif in the Gaza Strip, the Jewish Agency has begun preparations for their possible absorption in the Western Negev, either as part of new settlements or in the expansion of existing ones.

During a tour of the region yesterday, Yigal Yerushalmi, the agency's Negev District director, said that the transfer of Gaza to the Palestinians would speed up the departure of Jewish settlers from Gush Katif, and that some of them will want to move to the Negev.

However, a Jewish Agency spokesman later denied there was any such plan, and agency Settlement Department chief Sali Meridor called Yerushalmi's remarks "nonsense."

He added that the Gush Katif

settlements are receiving development aid as usual.

Yerushalmi said each family that left Gush Katif for the Negev would receive a \$65,000 long-term loan. "Our aim is to try to keep the Gush Katif settlers, most of whom are observant people who work in agriculture, in the Negev," he said.

He added that the agency would help Gush Katif settlers who want to set up new settlements in the Negev based on intensive agriculture like raising flowers and export-quality hothouse tomatoes.

"Today most of the Gush Katif settlers, with the exception perhaps of Neveh Dekalim, are involved in agriculture. Based on an organized plan, we would be ready to invest another \$1 million in research and development for the Gush Katif settlers who want

Bomb victim has bar mitzva in hospital

CHIEF Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, several MKs, and some 300 other guests yesterday joined Shlomi Eliahu, who was severely burned in the Afula car bomb attack last month, in celebrating his bar mitzva at the Children's Medical Center for Israel in Petah Tikva, where he is still hospitalized.

The party had been organized by volunteers of the Our Children organization, together with hospital staff.

In addition to his good friend Tal Peretz, who was also wounded

in the attack and is hospitalized with him, Shlomi was joined by several other wounded friends who were brought from Afula's Ha'emek Hospital and Sheba Hospital in Tel Hashomer for the occasion.

Just before the festivities began, a huge cake arrived from Beit Hanassi. President Ezer Weizman also sent a compact disk player for Shlomi, as he had requested, and mountain bikes for both him and Tal Peretz. Shlomi received several hundred other presents, as well as dozens of letters and cards from well-wishers. (Tim)

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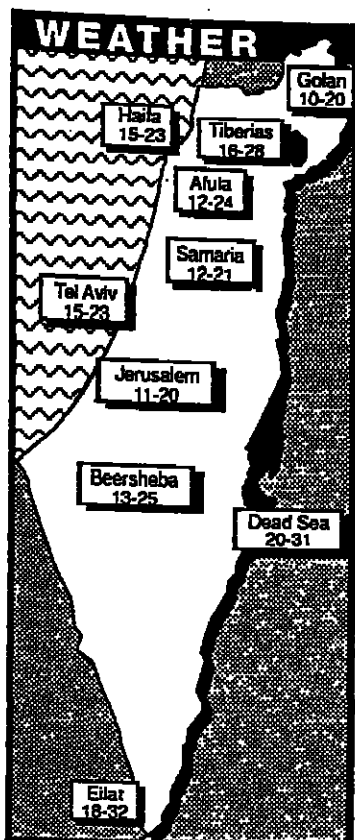
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Chicago	10	15	cloudy
Copenhagen	12	18	cloudy
Frankfurt	10	15	cloudy
Geneva	10	15	cloudy
Helsinki	10	15	cloudy
Hong Kong	21	28	clear
London	10	15	cloudy
Los Angeles	14	21	clear
Madrid	10	15	cloudy
Moscow	10	15	cloudy
New York	10	15	cloudy
Paris	10	15	cloudy

Peres: Peace process is now irreversible

'Arafat's Cairo act was ploy for internal consumption'

FOREIGN Minister Shimon Peres said yesterday that the "peace process is now irreversible. Nothing at all can stop it at this juncture."

Peres, speaking at the Labor party's weekly political bureau session, called Arafat's refusal to sign the maps at Wednesday's Cairo ceremony "a ploy intended for internal consumption."

At the same meeting, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin argued that next week's Histadrut elections should be by no means be considered a vote of confidence in his government, and especially not in the deal he struck with the PLO.

Peres sought to explain away Arafat's behavior at the signing ceremony as stemming from "great internal problems among the Palestinians. Arafat is beset by enormous difficulties within his own constituency."

"In my opinion, the negotiations which Arafat and the PLO are conducting with their own people are far more arduous than their negotiations with us. They are facing extreme opposition as is

SARAH HONIG

evinced by the fact that no delegation from the territories agreed to attend the Cairo ceremony. I think we should take into account that what happened with Arafat in Cairo was a move connected with the PLO's negotiations with its own people," Peres asserted.

"The peace agreement is a fait accompli and cannot be halted now. The PLO will soon cross over from declarations to deeds and will reconcile itself to the new reality," Peres predicted.

Rabin yesterday reversed himself on the policy line he adopted during last fall's municipal elections, which he defined as a vote "for or against the peace process." This time Rabin ruled out any connection "between the diplomatic moves under way and a political framework which has nothing to do with it."

Labor insiders see this as an expression of considerable anxiety about a possible beating Labor might suffer due to the indepen-

dent candidacy of former Laborite Haim Ramon.

The consensus among party pundits yesterday was that had Rabin been confident of a good performance by Labor, he would not have hesitated linking the Histadrut poll with the peace process.

In addition, it should be recalled that though he sought to squeeze more votes for Labor's municipal candidates this way in November, the party as a whole did badly in the local races.

Party insiders also noted that Rabin took extra care yesterday not to close the door entirely on readmitting Ramon to Labor or to the coalition after the Histadrut elections.

All Rabin would say when asked if he might call Ramon to return to his political home was that "first Labor must win the elections."

He also said that any cabinet reshuffle or possible expansion would also only be attempted after the Histadrut elections, when another effort would be made to examine whether Shas is at all serious about reentering the coalition.



Young Palestinians climb the fence outside the Jericho police station yesterday, as they prepare to place a PLO flag atop the now empty sign which only recently read 'Israel Police.' (Bernie Ardon/PPA)

Shilansky and Porat spend night in Jericho synagogue

HERB KEINON

Until it is reopened, and allowed to operate like a normal yeshiva.

Under the Cairo agreement signed in February, the ancient synagogue and the yeshiva are to remain under the Religious Affairs Ministry's jurisdiction.

Soldiers yesterday surrounded the synagogue, preventing government opponents who reached it on back roads in the early morning from entering the building and praying.

A few dozen people who reached the site in the morning prayed on the road outside the synagogue and then were put on buses by the soldiers and sent back to Jerusalem, according to Aharon Domb, spokesman for the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

Unlike Wednesday, when more than 200 people were evicted from the synagogue and arrested, no confrontations were reported yesterday.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's

spokesman Gad Ben-Ari told AP:

"It is one thing to use a holy site for worship, and it is quite another to have the synagogue as a place for political activities. This should not be part of the new realities." Ben-Ari, who denied this was an example of the government denying freedom of worship, said the closure "shows the army's determination to implement the agreement in letter and spirit."

In a related development, heads of settlements in the northern Dead Sea area met yesterday and warned that if they can not reach their settlements without being stopped by the army, they will interrupt traffic for everyone.

An area extending from just south of Vered Jericho and extending north to Moshav Phasael has been closed to Israeli vehicles—and journalists—since Tuesday.

The settlement leaders said the closure is creating serious problems for people who live in the area, and issued a statement reading, "It is unacceptable that Jewish pioneers will be humiliated in the Jewish land."

Palestinian police still fail to show up in Jericho

BILL HUTMAN

The Palestinian police failed to show up yesterday in Jericho, apparently because the PLO was not ready to begin taking over for the Israeli police and army in the city.

Instead, a delegation of Palestinian police officers held talks in Jericho late Wednesday night with Israeli military and police officials in the city, Palestinian sources said.

"There was no reason for this," said Adnan Hamad, head of the PLO-affiliated Palestinian Democratic Union (FIDA). "People need to see something, some committees arriving, so they will start to feel that things will get better." The sources said the delegation

returned to Jordan after several hours of meetings, including with the military governor of Jericho.

They held talks on the implementation of the Cairo accord, and logistical plans for Palestinian police to take over in the city, the sources said.

The meetings were held without the prior knowledge of local leaders, who were not consulted afterwards, either. Throughout the peace talks, local leaders have complained about being largely left out of the process.

"Nobody here knows what is happening," said local PLO leader, Abed El-Kareem Sidar.

Hamad is scheduled to go to Amman today to meet with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, and find out where Jericho stands in the peace process.

Hamad is also set to meet FIDA leader, Yasser Abed Rabo, who is coming to Amman with Arafat.

With the official arrival of Palestinian police officers canceled, there were no visible signs of change brought about by the signing of the Cairo agreement.

"This is a bad situation. We need to get things started immediately," Hamad said.

Court rejects plea against deal with PLO

EVELYN GORDON

The High Court of Justice yesterday rejected a petition by MK Shaul Yahalom (NRP), demanding that people who wave PLO flags be put on trial.

Attorney Pinhas Maoz, representing Yahalom, pointed out that by law, flying a PLO flag is still a crime. The government has made no effort to revoke this law, nor has it changed the PLO's designation as a terrorist organization.

Therefore, he said, the attorney-general's decision that Israel's new relationship with the PLO eliminates the public interest in such trials cannot be justified.

However, Justices Aharon Barak, Theodor Orr and Elihu Matza rejected that this is still an interim period, during which the government's policy of recognizing the PLO has not yet found expression in legislation.

It is perfectly reasonable, they said, for the attorney-general to act in the spirit of the new relationship during this interim period.

Labor voters on Golan protest Rabin's policy

Say premier has let them down

HERB KEINON

A FEW dozen residents of northern Golan kibbutzim that voted heavily for Labor in the last elections demonstrated at the Kuneitra border crossing between Syria and Israel yesterday, charging that Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has let them down.

Uri Heitner, a Kibbutz Ortal member and spokesman for the Golan Settlements Committee, said that 70 percent of his kibbutz voted for Rabin, comforted by his pre-election pronouncements that the Golan was essential for the country's security.

"He disappointed us," Heitner said. "We feel let down."

The demonstrators all came from four kibbutzim affiliated with the United Kibbutz Movement. It was at a United Kibbutz Movement convention two weeks ago that Rabin said he favored evacuating settlements on the Golan to achieve peace with Syria.

Heitner said the demonstration was held at Kuneitra to bring

home their point that this is where the border should remain, and that the country cannot allow it to be moved westward.

In a related development, Yehuda Wolman, head of the Golan Regional Council met with the head of the Jordan Valley Regional Council, David Levy, to express identification with the settlements there and offer to work together. The two agreed to coordinate their struggle against the government as much as possible.

David Elhayani, head of the Jordan Valley Settlements Committee, said that Labor voters in both regions will soon do "something political" to attract the attention of Labor MKs who are considered sympathetic to their causes.

According to Labor MK Avigdor Kahalani, who heads the Golan's lobby in the party, the Jordan Valley settlements have nine "quiet soldiers" in the party. Seven Labor MK are considered part of the Labor Party's Golan caucus.

Likud blasts Labor's alleged 'hiring of demonstrators'

SARAH HONIG

system," said Likud spokesman Zvi Hauser. "Staged demonstrations in support of the ruling party are what we associate with very different regimes."

Among those who demonstrated in support of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Tel Aviv Wednesday night were teenagers who said they were paid NIS 11 an hour to carry placards reading: "Rabin, we are with you."

One 16-year-old Holon resident told the Post that she went to a private employment agency in search of an after-school job. She was offered work "standing on as-

signed street corners and major road junctions with placards for NIS 11 an hour plus transportation costs." Two other teenagers interviewed told similar stories.

Labor party spokesman Yoram Dori admitted that "the party uses hired placard-carriers on street corners in the Histadrut campaign but this has no connection whatever with the welcome rally for Rabin on Wednesday."

Asked if he thought the teenagers interviewed were lying, Dori said that "No one asked them to demonstrate for Rabin. If some fool sent them there, because he got confused, then I am not responsible."

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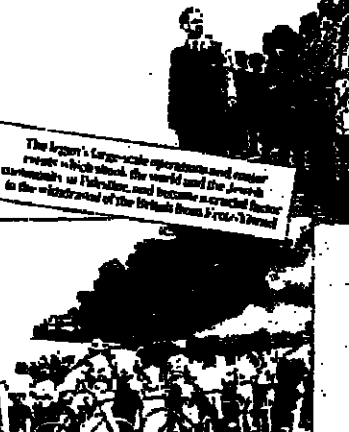
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Palestinians want health cooperation to continue

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Palestinian leadership in Gaza/Jericho has made it clear to the Health Ministry that even under autonomy, it wants to continue cooperation at all levels to ensure decent health services for residents, according to Dr. Theodore Tulchinsky, the ministry's coordinator for health in the territories.

Tulchinsky said the Palestinians would like to continue sending here those patients who cannot be treated in local hospitals - including severe burn cases, cancer patients needing radiotherapy, neurosurgery patients, and children needing major cardiac surgery. They may also ask Israel to purchase vaccines for them and are unlikely to halt the training of doctors of their doctors who are learning specialties in Israeli hospitals.

The Canadian-born public health expert, who makes frequent visits to Gaza, said the person most likely to run health services in Gaza is Dr. Riyadh Zanoun, an internal-medicine specialist who spent many years abroad.

"He is an excellent man and has worked in recent years for non-governmental organizations in Gaza," said Tulchinsky. "His counterpart in the West Bank is Dr. Rafik Hussein. Dr. Fathi Arafat, the PLO chairman's brother, will probably be in overall charge, but won't get involved at the administrative level."

There are enough vaccines in Gaza to last through the end of 1994 or even longer, he added. "The civil administration has committed itself to leave a three-month supply of disposable equip-

ment and at least a month's supply of food for local hospitals in the autonomous regions."

Maintaining a decent level of health in these areas is of vital interest not only for Palestinians, but also for Israel. "Every time I go to Gaza, I say I'm doing it for the health of the children of Israel," Tulchinsky said. Diseases can easily spread across borders.

Despite the obvious political differences between Palestinians and Israelis, the relations between health professionals on both sides is excellent, and senior Palestinian doctors are well qualified.

"Palestinians in the territories are justifiably proud of the excellent immunization program Israel has implemented there, and they have even expressed their gratitude publicly. Nearly 95 percent of the children - who constitute half of the population of Gaza - are immunized; that's higher than the average rate in Israel. About 45 percent of the Gaza population have taken out health insurance from the civil administration; the rest have not for political reasons or simply because of cultural opposition to health insurance."

The infant mortality rate in Gaza has dropped from 150 per 1,000 live births before 1967 to about 30 today; in Israel, the average is 9 per 1,000, and among Israeli Arabs 14 per 1,000.

"On the whole, we've certainly done our bit; of course, we could have done more. There's a lot more to be done, especially in sewage infrastructure and health insurance," said Tulchinsky.

High Court rejects 'shmita plea' to bar agreement with PLO

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice this week rejected a petition which charged that the agreement with the PLO is illegal because the government is transferring control over lands it doesn't own, having sold them to a third party as part of the shmita contract.

During the shmita, or sabbatical year, it is forbidden to eat produce cultivated on Jewish-owned land within Israel. The Chief Rabbinate therefore sells the country's land to a non-Jew for the duration of every shmita year, since the commandment against cultivating the land does not apply to property owned by a non-Jew.

In his petition to the court, Jerusalemite Shimon Haohen had argued that since Gaza and Jericho were sold to one Ahmed Mughabi until next Rosh Hashana, the transfer of power to the PLO in these regions would be null and void unless it was done with Mu-

grab's express consent. According to standard legal practice, he said, the government can't give away what it doesn't own.

In an unusual move, Justice Yitzhak Zamir threw out the petition without even giving it a hearing.

"This court has seen a lot of petitions, and recently, petitions have multiplied that pull pretexts out of nowhere," he wrote in his decision. "But a petition like this has never been seen before. It's impossible even to know whether it's serious or a joke."

Among other reasons why the petition deserved to be thrown out, Zamir wrote, was that it failed to explain why the shmita sale prevented "the de facto transfer of control" in Gaza and Jericho, and the fact that the petitioner made no effort to find out whether Mughabi actually objected to the transfer.

Terms of the agreement on the Gaza District and Jericho area

The Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (hereinafter "the PLO"), the representative of the Palestinian people:

PREAMBLE
WITHIN the framework of the Middle East peace process initiated at Madrid in October 1991:

REAFFIRMING their determination to live in peaceful coexistence, mutual dignity and security, while recognizing their mutual legitimate and political rights;

REAFFIRMING their desire to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement through the agreed political process;

REAFFIRMING their adherence to the mutual recognition and commitments expressed in the letters dated September 9, 1993, signed by and exchanged between the Prime Minister of Israel and the Chairman of the PLO;

REAFFIRMING their understanding that the interim self-government arrangements, including the arrangements to apply in the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area contained in this agreement, are an integral part of the whole peace process and that the negotiations on the permanent status will lead to the implementation of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338;

DESIROUS of putting into effect the Declaration of Principles

on Interim Self-Government Arrangements signed at Washington, D.C. on September 13, 1993, and the agreed minutes thereto (hereinafter "the Declaration of Principles"), and in particular the protocol on withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area:

HEREBY AGREE to the following arrangements regarding the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area:

ARTICLE 1
Definitions for the purpose of this Agreement:

A. The Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area are delineated on map Nos. 1 and 2 attached to this agreement.

B. "The settlements" means the Gush Katif and Erez settlement areas, as well as the other settlements in the Gaza Strip, as shown on attached map No. 1.

C. "The Military Installation Area" means the Israeli military installation area along the Egyptian border in the Gaza Strip, as shown on map No. 1.

D. The term "Israelis" shall also include Israeli statutory agencies and corporations registered in Israel.

ARTICLE II
Scheduled Withdrawal of Israeli Military Forces

1. Israel shall implement an ac-

celerated and scheduled withdrawal of Israeli military forces from the Gaza Strip and from the Jericho Area to begin immediately with the signing of this agreement.

Israel shall complete such withdrawal within three weeks from this date.

2. Subject to the arrangements included in the Protocol Concerning Withdrawal of Israeli Military Forces and Security Arrangements attached as Annex 1, the Israeli withdrawal shall include evacuating all military bases and other fixed installations to be handed over to the Palestinian Police, to be established pursuant to Article IX below (hereinafter "the Palestinian Police").

3. In order to carry out Israel's responsibility for external security and for internal security and public order of settlements and Israel, Israel shall, concurrently with the withdrawal, redeploy its remaining military forces to the settlements and the Military Installation Area, in accordance with the provisions of this agreement.

Subject to the provisions of this agreement, this redeployment shall constitute full implementation of Article XIII of the Declaration of Principles with regard to the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area only.

The annexes are not yet available.

Kibbutzim on the Gaza border prepare for new situation

ABRAHAM RABINOVICH

KIBBUTZIM along the Gaza border are weighing political instincts against survival instincts as the fence and military infrastructure that separated them from 800,000 Palestinian neighbors disappear simultaneously, rendering them once again border settlements.

"Most of our members support the Gaza-Jericho agreement and think it's the best solution, the only solution, in the long run," said Hezi Einat, secretary of Nahal Oz. "The problem is the short run."

The old border fence is presently being taken down and a new electrified fence will not be in place until the end of the year. Meanwhile, said Einat, the kibbutz, just east of Gaza City, is strengthening its own fence and adding lighting.

"We've also increased guard duty," said Einat. Responsibility for patrolling the border itself remains the army's.

The kibbutz used to employ Arabs from the Gaza Strip, but stopped two years ago as terror attacks mounted. A few months ago, a Palestinian who infiltrated the kibbutz was caught trying to steal a vehicle. He pulled a knife and wounded two people before being apprehended.

At Kissufim, opposite the southern end of the Gaza Strip,

the Defense Ministry has provided a patrol vehicle, said secretary Yossi Nitzan. "We've closed off the gaps in our fence in the past month and added lighting. Politically, we support the signing of the agreement, but we have to be realistic."

Gazans stole equipment from the kibbutz fields this week. "We hope the political situation will eventually reduce their motivation for such acts," said Nitzan.

In the development town of Sderot, within Katynsha range of Gaza, shoe repairman Andre Kantor expressed doubt that the agreement will hold. "We went into this too fast. We should have gone step by step, getting something for whatever we give. [Yasser] Arafat knows where our missing soldiers are, being held. Why are we not making him tell us?"

Tax consultant Ya'acov Etedgy, who has been living in Sderot since arriving at six from Morocco, said the government should have put down the intifada instead of surrendering to it. "If we don't have the strength to put it down, we don't have the right to exist. Tomorrow, Israel's Arabs can rise up and say they want Wadi Ara. All these years, the government has

been telling us that territories and settlements are important. Now they're telling us they're not important. Either they were lying to us then or now. I'm against the agreement but since it's been signed, I hope it succeeds. If it does, I'll be the first to take my hat off to [Yitzhak] Rabin. If it doesn't, a pity on all the lives that will be lost."

In Ashdod, real estate dealer Avi Cohen said he was not dissuaded from his support of the peace process by Arafat's performance in Cairo on Wednesday. "I don't believe in him. I believe in the process. The previous situation was intolerable. How will we be able to look our children in the eye if we don't try?"

Ashdod butcher Jacques Alkabez summed up many of the public's conflicting attitudes. "I'm for the agreement and against the agreement," he said. "I'm for it because I don't want my children and grandchildren to have to go to war. I'm against it because we're not making peace with a state, but with a bunch of people who can disappear tomorrow and be replaced by crazies. But I'm for peace."

Almost everyone is for peace, but hope for its prospects appears to be fairly evenly matched by uncertainty.

Arik Bridge, linking Galilee and the Golan, torched

THE Arik Bridge linking Galilee and the Golan was torched Wednesday night. Firefighters put the fire out, preventing serious damage.

Police were also called to the scene, and they closed the bridge

for repairs. It reopened yesterday afternoon. Police said they had a clue to who was responsible for the fire, and that it was not considered a nationalist act.

An unsuccessful attempt was

made earlier this week to set the bridge on fire with burning tires. The Golan Settlement Council condemned the arson, and said they suspected individuals opposed to the Golan settlements were responsible. (TIM)



A Jericho resident sits in front of a graffiti victory sign yesterday as he reads about the signing of the Israel-PLO agreement. (Reuters)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gur on visit to Russia

Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Gur is currently visiting Russia, at the request of the Foreign Ministry and the Jewish Agency, to participate in Jerusalem Day celebrations in St. Petersburg and Moscow. Gur will attend Jerusalem Day ceremonies to be held at the "dvoretz molodyozhi" (youth palace) and at the central synagogue. He will also meet with Russian officials.

A baby alligator in the closet

Police searching a Bat Yam resident's home for stolen property discovered a live baby alligator in the man's closet.

Detectives, armed with a warrant, searched the man's house and found a cellular phone and a small amount of gold, believed to be stolen.

But in the man's bedroom, in a small tub inside his closet, police also found a baby alligator, around 20 cm. in length. The man said he bought the alligator in Jaffa's flea market for \$100. "I bought it instead of a baby tiger that was on sale there for the same price," police quoted him as saying.

Police transferred the alligator to the Zoological Institute at Abu Kabir. The man was questioned and later released on bail.

Kollek given Human Rights Award

Former Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek was presented Wednesday night with the 1994 Human Rights Award from the International League for Human Rights, at a ceremony held at the UN.

In his address, Kollek stressed the importance of maintaining Jerusalem as an entity under Israeli control.

"Whether the people are Jews, Christians or Moslems, we'll treat them as we believe Jews should be treated all over the world," Kollek said.

Emily Torgan

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the seven of spades, ten of hearts, Jack of diamonds and ace of clubs.

Attorney petitions court on Yoram Sheftel

Attorney Yoram Sheftel, who defended John Demjanjuk against charges of being "Ivan the Terrible" of Treblinka, should be put on trial for disparaging the court, a petition to the High Court of Justice demanded yesterday.

The petition, filed by Tel Aviv attorney Yedidya Berry, cited Sheftel's comments to the press last July that the Supreme Court justices hearing the case were "trying to deceive the public."

Slandering a judge is punishable by three years in prison.

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ANC nears control of parliament

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Results released yesterday showed the African National Congress edging toward the two-thirds parliament majority that would give it control over the country's new constitution.

Meanwhile, a respected financial newspaper accused the judge in charge of South Africa's historic election of "dissembling" in the face of possible "massive electoral fraud" in KwaZulu-Natal, stronghold of Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party.

Although the ANC has already claimed victory and the losers have conceded defeat, the vote count has dragged on nearly a week after the polls closed and parties have been trading charges of vote-rigging. Acknowledging some problems, election officials say they have only slightly influenced the overall results.

But *Business Day* newspaper, in an unusual and strongly worded front-page editorial, said elections might have to be held again for the province of KwaZulu-Natal. It called on Judge Johann Kriegler, chairman of the Independent Electoral Commission, to "come completely clean" about the voting mess.

"He cannot be allowed to go on treating his fellow South Africans as fools," the newspaper said.

"If the Natal vote was excessively flawed by fraud, some means must be found to hold the election in the province again. If there are doubts about the competency of the election in the (Johannesburg region), they must be discussed openly."

At a news conference Wednesday, Kriegler admitted final results might have to be changed to compensate for voting irregularities.

"Let's not get overly squeamish about it," said the judge. He conceded there might have been some fraud, but said: "You can't work in a brothel and remain chaste."

ANC Nelson Mandela said yesterday he was not overly concerned about the vote fraud charges and the slowness of the count.

"This election, generally speaking, has been pronounced by international observers as having been free and fair," Mandela said.

The ANC stood yesterday with 64.9 percent of the votes. The white-led National Party of outgoing President F.W. de Klerk had 20.5 percent. Inkatha had 8.1 percent. The Freedom Front, which demands a separate white homeland, had 2.2 percent. About 66 percent of the 22.7 million ballots cast had been counted.

If further counting gives the ANC two-thirds of the new 400-seat parliament, the ANC would not need any other party's agreement to shape South Africa's permanent constitution, which will take effect after a five-year transition period.

However, Mandela reiterated yesterday that even if the ANC achieves such a majority, it would still take wishes of all parties into account when passing the final constitution.

"We do not intend to use the majority to oppress the minority," he said.

The negotiations leading to the transfer of power to the black majority emphasized that the first post-apartheid government would be one of "national unity," both in the statutes and in its mindset. For example, it virtually guaranteed a role for de Klerk, whose party codified apartheid and brutally enforced it before pressure at home and abroad forced it to reverse course.

Mandela also has emphasized racial reconciliation repeatedly as he prepares to become the country's first black president. Mandela's message has been eagerly accepted by most whites, whose capital and expertise he hopes to keep in the country.

It was not clear when the vote count would be complete. The Independent Electoral Commission, embarrassed by logistical chaos and apparently victimized by sabotage, only promised that the results would be ready for Mandela's gala inaugural Tuesday.

Bosnia demands that top UN official resign

SARAJEVO (AP) — The Bosnian government, enraged by reports that the United Nations had agreed to help Serbs move tanks, yesterday said it would seek the resignation of the UN's top civilian envoy. The remarks, by Premier Haris Silajdzic, came as American, Russian and European negotiators were expected in Sarajevo to begin talks toward an overall peace settlement for Bosnia.

UN officials in Sarajevo said Wednesday that the chief UN envoy for former Yugoslavia, Yasushi Akashi, and Serb leaders had agreed verbally to allow seven Serb tanks to pass through a zone around Sarajevo where heavy weapons are excluded.

Officials at UN headquarters in Zagreb contradicted that report, but the Bosnian government reacted bitterly. "The United Nations is making deals with representatives of the aggressor, practically helping them to move tanks from one position to another, so they can kill civilians somewhere else," Silajdzic said. "Today we will request that Akashi resign because of what he has done."

The angry reaction highlighted frustration with the UN Protection Force in Bosnia. Both the Muslim-led government and rival Bosnian Serbs have accused it of taking sides in the two-year war that has left 200,000 people dead or missing.

UN spokesmen gave conflicting accounts of the reported agreement and the movement of two Bosnian Serb T-74 tanks in the 20-km exclusion zone around the capital, Sarajevo.

NATO threatened in February

to bomb the Bosnian Serbs if they did not remove all weapons from the zone or place them under UN control. But there are continuing reports of weapons in the zone, and confrontations between peacekeepers guarding the weapons and Bosnian Serb troops trying to take them back.

Cmdr. Eric Chaperon, a UN spokesman in Sarajevo, said the tanks entered the zone without UN knowledge, were intercepted by French peacekeepers and escorted out of the zone. On Wednesday, he said there had been a "verbal agreement" authorizing Serb tanks to cross the exclusion zone under UN escort.

At UN headquarters in Zagreb, Croatia, spokesman Matthew Nerzig said Akashi had discussed movement of the tanks Tuesday with Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic. But he said no agreement had been reached.

He said the tanks were turned back by UN forces and that there was no possibility now that the United Nations would agree to any such transfer.

Meanwhile, a convoy of about 160 British soldiers and 51 vehicles that has been blocked by Serbs since Sunday was allowed to proceed late Wednesday to the eastern Muslim enclave of Gorazde. It arrived early yesterday, Nerzig said.

Both Nerzig and Chaperon denied speculation that the release of the peacekeepers was linked to the purported agreement on the Serb tanks.

In other developments, Sarajevo airport remained closed to relief flights after two flights were hit by small arms fire Wednesday.



Rwandan refugees fetch water from a stagnant lake at a refugee camp in northwest Tanzania. (Reuters)

Rebel forces attack Kigali Rwandan gov't declares mass mobilization

KIGALI (Reuters) — Shells, mortar bombs and rockets battered Rwanda's capital yesterday when a rebel offensive unleashed the worst fighting in a month of war and tribal mass slaughter.

The beleaguered government declared a mass mobilization, calling on all Rwandans to take up arms, return to their homes and fight the rebels instead of running away.

Attacks by the rebel Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) from 7 p.m. on Wednesday involved bombardments of Kigali city center and street-to-street fighting. UN officers and witnesses said.

Six RPF Katyusha rockets slammed into the government-held commercial center of the capital, sending hundreds of people fleeing for their lives at an open air market, witnesses said.

The RPF thrust to Kigali from the north days after civil war and massacres erupted in the wake of the killing of President Juvenal Habyarimana in a rocket attack on his plane on April 6.

Aid workers estimate more than 200,000 people have died, many hacked to death, in massacres of the minority Tutsi tribe and opposition members by the majority Hutu, who dominate the armed forces.

In a speech broadcast on Rwandan radio, Prime Minister Jean

Kambanda, who heads a self-declared Hutu government, said every Rwandan, even farmers, should be armed and urged hundreds of thousands of people who had fled to return to join the battles.

"We have men, munitions, a united government, a united army and we have to win," he said. "Weapons are the main priority for the government even if this prevents the normal importation of goods."

The United States has called for an arms embargo against Rwanda. UN officers say the country is awash with weapons.

Kambanda said the government could not tolerate thousands of people fleeing when five or 10 RPF rebels appeared in their home area, and fired in the air.

The government controls barely a third of the tiny central African state hit by the worst atrocities in generations. The radio said Kambanda made the speech on Wednesday in the town of Kibuye.

Abdul Kabia, executive head of the UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) said heavy fighting with small arms, mortars and artillery across Kigali raged overnight and into yesterday.

"They are the heaviest battles since this all started and the first time both sides have battled throughout the night," said Ka-

bia, adding casualty figures were impossible to obtain.

But Rwanda Army spokesman Major Epithane Hanyurwimana said the fighting since Wednesday night was nothing unusual and was concentrated in the RPF-held

eastern suburbs of the capital.

UN officers said the UN compound and airport, where four peacekeepers were wounded by mortar bombs on Tuesday and Wednesday, were not hit but RPF headquarters were blasted.

Clinton denounces Fay lashing

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton yesterday denounced the flogging of an American teenager in Singapore, saying the punishment was too harsh for the youth's alleged crime and because of questions about whether he was really guilty.

Clinton said the United States was weighing "what would be an appropriate statement by our government in the aftermath."

Michael Fay, 18, whose case sparked an international controversy over crime and punishment, was lashed four times today with a rattan cane for spray-painting cars and other acts of vandalism.

"I think it was a mistake, as I said before, not only because of the nature of the punishment related to the crime but because of the questions that were raised about whether the young man was in fact guilty and involuntarily confessed," the president said.

The State Department planned to call in Singapore's ambassador yesterday to express the Clinton administration's displeasure. White House Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers said earlier.

"Caneing is a ... cruel form of punishment," she said.

Asked if there would be any other action taken against Singapore, other than the meeting, Myers said, "We'll have more to say on that later."

Clinton has said he supports some form of punishment for Fay, but he has objected to caning.

"I think many Americans who have expressed sympathy with it do not understand exactly what it involves — how it is going to be administered and that he is going to bleed considerably and may have permanent scars. And I think it is a mistake," Clinton said last month.

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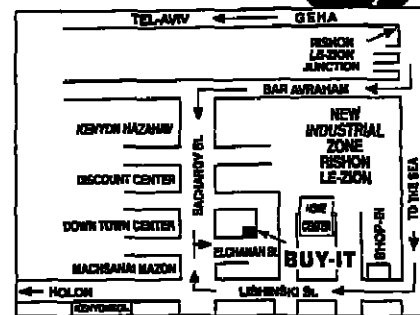
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Dr. Isaac Gottlieb — Duality in Nachmanides' Commentary to the Torah	5:45-6:30
Minha Services	6:30
Rabbi Aharon Lichtenstein — Sanctification: Response, Discovery, Creation	7:00
Ma'ariv Services	8:00

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Some imminent problems

At one point in the negotiations, Yasser Arafat said that April 13 was a sacred date. It was on that day, according to the Declaration of Principles, that Israel was scheduled to evacuate Jericho and the Gaza District, and he insisted that Israel adhere to the Oslo timetable.

There were several causes for the delay, but mostly they were the PLO's refusal to negotiate after the Hebron massacre, and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's healthy insistence on dotting every 'i' and crossing every 't' before signing the implementation document. In the end, realizing that delay was undermining support for the agreement in Israel and the weakening of Arafat's position in the territories, Rabin agreed to sign before many substantive details were settled. It was yet another instance in which Rabin's pledge proved unequal to the momentum of the process.

Yet now the signing ceremony is history, prompt Israeli evacuation is no longer sacred. Arafat is not ready to take over in Gaza and Jericho. Israeli sources intimate that he begged Rabin to continue that intolerable Israeli "occupation" at least another month. It may be the first time a "liberated" people wishes to postpone its liberation.

Nor is it necessarily only a matter of three or four weeks. Yesterday, an Arafat aide said that even after a month the PLO would not be ready to shoulder responsibility for the ceded territories. He said it may take up to three months, perhaps more, for the PLO to be able to run hospitals, collect taxes, manage the municipalities, and provide minimal services.

Understandably, Rabin is miffed. He reportedly told Arafat that instead of spending days and nights on details like stamps, or the Palestinian policeman's position on the bridge and the extent of territorial waters, the PLO should have been preparing for the transition.

But it is a major error to suppose that Arafat's concern with "marginal" details is merely a sign of disorganization. Arafat is by no means the first Arab ruler whose interest in the welfare of his people is minimal. A typical example of a tyrant always ready to sacrifice the people's good on the altar of self-aggrandizement can be found in Arafat's ally and friend Saddam Hussein.

That Arafat is far more interested in the symbols and components of sovereignty than in the health of patients in Gaza hospitals is hardly surprising. The declared aim of the PLO's takeover in Gaza and Jericho is not, after all, to develop model communities in these two areas, nor to give Arafat an opportunity to prove his skills as mayor of Gaza and Jericho, but to establish a bridgehead to a Palestinian state. And if Arafat's repeated references to the PLO's "phased plan" of

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1974 is any indication, the state he has in mind is not one that would live next to Israel but replace it.

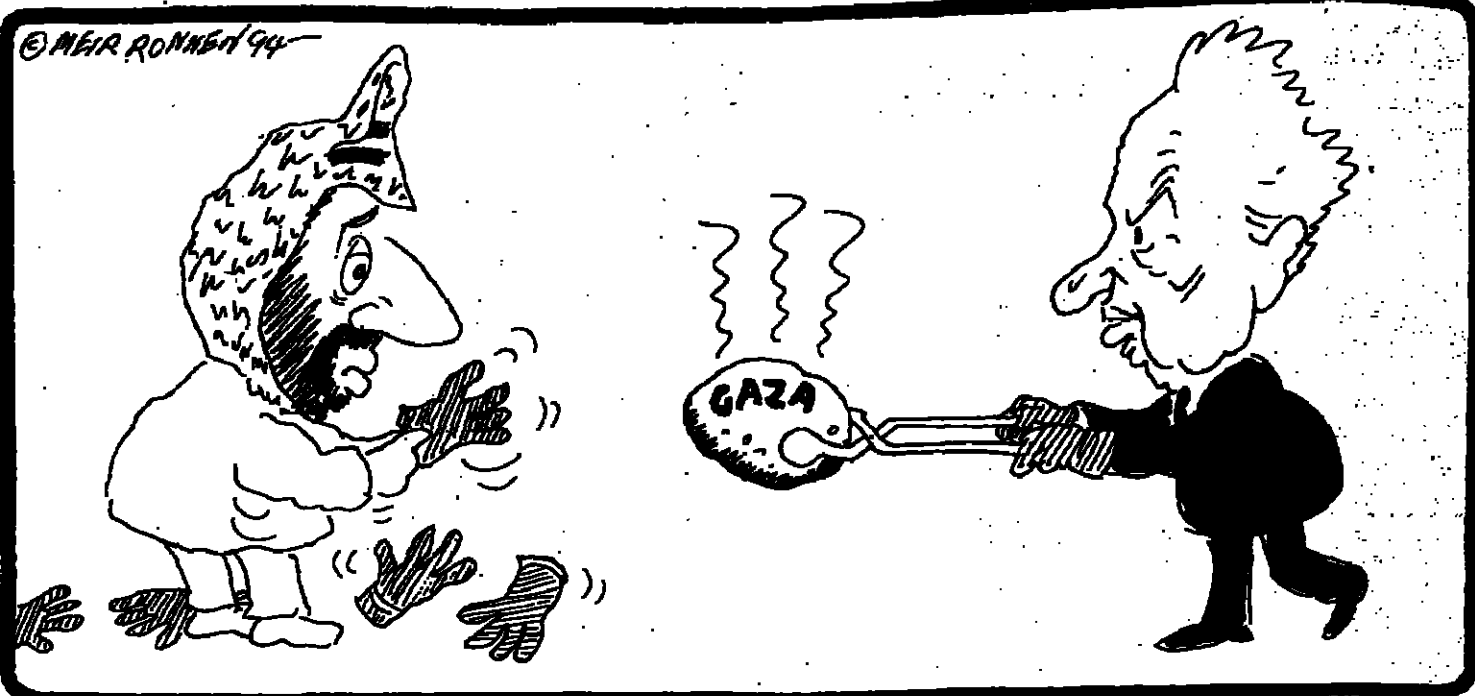
For all his shenanigans and petulance, he has managed to obtain so many ingredients of sovereignty that it will be difficult for the world not to treat Gaza/Jericho as anything less than a state. The mere fact that the World Bank, which does not deal with organizations, has been asked by Israel to arrange a loan for the Palestinian "authority" is an indication that the Palestinian entity will be considered a state by the international community.

Arafat also insists that the Council which he will appoint next week will have legislative powers, and will be able to make laws that will supersede the agreement. Israel may object, but once the army withdraws there is little it will be able to do about it. Moreover, the "entity" has been ceded control over territorial waters, it will have legations throughout the world, and it will have a flag, a stamp and an independent telephone code. To call it an entity rather than a state is to play silly games with semantics.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has said that all these things do not really matter, that gestures of generosity, "carrots" as he calls them, should only facilitate reconciliation. Rabin, too, has said that what the Palestinians do in their areas does not bother him. Asked about the intention of members of the "Palestinian police force" - a euphemism for the imported PLO army trained in terrorist camps abroad - to bring their families with them, he said he did not care if the population of Gaza and Jericho is increased by another 50,000. But such insouciance only means the PLO army can become as large as the PLO wants it, to be, and that there can be little control over trained terrorists entering the self-rule areas.

The issue of immigration into the territories is not one Israel can treat cavalierly. The next session of negotiations will be devoted to the "return" of the 1967 refugees and their offspring. Israel claims their number is 200,000. The PLO say it is closer to 800,000. To most Israelis it matters little how crowded the Gaza District becomes, but the more unemployed people are jammed into the "entity" the more pressure will be created on its borders, and the greater likelihood of the terrorist war intensifying.

The government insists that if the self-rule areas become bases for terrorist activity, if the terrorist George Habash - for example - realizes his threat to attack Israelis from Gaza and Jericho, Israel will discontinue the process. But if the government's tendency to rationalize flagrant violations of PLO commitments is any indication, its capacity to resist the momentum of the process may be limited indeed.



Government's joyful surrender

ARIEL SHARON

IT'S been a hard week for Israel. For no apparent reason, the weak Jewish government of a strong, victorious nation surrendered unconditionally to the Palestinian terrorist organization. The Palestinians haven't even been asked to annul the Palestinian covenant, which calls for the destruction of the Jewish nation and the State of Israel. Nor have they any intention of doing so. And their terrorist organizations are continuing their murderous activities, even announcing that they will intensify them.

This week, the Jewish government set up a terrorist Palestinian state, without taking the most minimal precautions.

We have all seen pictures of surrender. Hands up, sometimes bound. Injured or well, soldiers or officers, allies or enemies; the eyes are always the same. Sad eyes, filled with pain and shame and humiliation. No joy is ever visible in people who surrender, no signs of happiness in the defeated.

Except for the crumbling government in Jerusalem. In what may have been a historical first, it surrendered with joy. Its supporters raise a toast.

As kids, we were taught to treat Diaspora Jews with contempt. "They are scared, humbled, afraid of every vulgar, violent Gentile," we were told. In contrast, the natives of Israel were "erect, proud, brave new Jews."

I miss the "humbled" people of those days: David Ben-Gurion, Levi Eshkol, Golda Meir, Menachem Begin. They remained erect until their last day. And that's how they led us. Compared to them, today's "proud" are bent indeed. A Diaspora soul isn't a matter of geography, and it doesn't make a difference whether you speak Hebrew, or whether you were born in Jerusalem, Nahalal or Vilna.

It was with pain that I looked at our representatives, those "prisoners from Jerusalem," under the spread wings of the Egyptian eagle.

They didn't look like the representatives of a victorious state, one that defeated the armies of seven Arab nations in the War of Independence and liberated the Temple Mount in the Six Day War; one that turned defeat into victory as its forces crossed the Suez Canal in the Yom Kippur War and threw PLO headquarters

they can do. But security isn't only tanks and cannon. When a small child lives in the area - that is what gives his family motivation to defend him and the place where he lives. That too is a component of power.

Security is knowing an area - every path, every spring, every wadi, every forest, every moun-

What would our Labor heroes of old have had to say about it?

and terrorists out of Beirut in Operation Peace for Galilee.

THIS WEEK's surrender wasn't just a political affair. It was the surrender of a 100-year-old ideology. It also marked the surrender of a security concept.

For the first time, Israel's security was placed in the hands of an alien element, of a murderous Palestinian terrorist organization.

What would Labor heroes Yitzhak Tabenkin, Yisrael Galili, Yigael Allon and Moshe Dayan have had to say about it?

Particularly hard to swallow was this week's attempt to bring about the surrender of the century-old settlement-security concept.

"The settlements' contribution to security is marginal," we were told. "Tanks provide security." Perhaps it was to prepare the ground for the abandonment of the settlements, including those of the Jordan Rift. Perhaps it was to facilitate the evacuation of the Golan communities. Either way, it was a portentous statement.

In 1948, during the worst days of the War of Independence, I always believed that even if, heaven forbid, we failed, the enemy would not penetrate the lines of settlements.

Having commanded hundreds of tanks in battle, I know what

tain. Security is being curious about what is on the other side of the hill.

If we are to believe what we're being told today, then perhaps we should put a tank where Kibbutz Manara is, or an armored troop carrier instead of Moshav Margalit, or perhaps an infantry squad instead of Eilon. Or a half-track instead of Nir Am. It would be far more cost-effective. And it would be nonsense.

I implore the government: Don't raise your hand against the settlements. Don't undermine their existence.

You have put us all in danger. True, you "couldn't" return without "progress" (the real meaning of which is "Israel's withdrawal").

After all, you've committed yourselves. So the price doesn't matter. Nor the substance. The main thing is that the process continue.

But it is important that at least some lessons for the future be learned. It is imperative that:

- The anatomy of how the government of a strong state lost its nerve be analyzed. It has happened to us several times: in the waiting period before the Six Day War, in the Yom Kippur War, and in the current negotiations with the Palestinian terrorist organization.
- Our MIAs and POWs and the

bodies of our fallen be returned - now - in exchange for the thousands of Palestinian terrorists still in our hands.

• Our final goal be determined immediately and the talks conducted accordingly. The Palestinians have given us a good lesson on how to negotiate.

• Continued negotiations be conditioned on complete fulfillment of the agreement, including total cessation of terrorist activity and the annulment of the Palestinian Covenant.

• Jerusalem continue to be the united capital of Israel and the Jewish nation, and that full security return there, no matter what the cost. The activities of Orient House and other PLO offices must be transferred to Jericho or Gaza, whichever the Palestinians choose. Jewish settlement in all parts of the city must be accelerated.

• If terrorism continues, as our intelligence chiefs warn, a situation be created in which we can carry out preemptive action, and hot pursuit in case of a terror strike. We must accustom the terrorist organizations to this kind of response from the start, thereby correcting our main blunder in the Oslo agreement.

• The number of terrorists already entering the area, masquerading as policemen, be controlled.

• The entry of international forces to Gaza and Jericho be postponed or the numbers diminished as far as possible, even at this stage.

I implore this governments: Don't say it's too late. Don't say nothing can be done. It still can. And don't ask: "What if the experiment succeeds?"

If that happens, you will be truly blessed. And we will have been proved wrong.

But the main question remains: what price will be exacted if this experiment with the nation's destiny fails? That is what we must focus on.

The writer, a Likud MK, is a former defense minister.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FRACAS AT MA'ALOT

Sir, - On April 24, you carried an item about what happened in Ma'alot ("MK, family attacked by anti-gov't protesters"). I am sorry to say that not one word of this report is true.

On Friday morning, MK Shlomo Buchbut met Rabbi Weizman, Rosh Yeshiva Hesder Ma'alot, in the street near the municipality. Mr. Buchbut accused Rabbi Weizman that, because of him, his students hung posters against the government policy. Rabbi Weizman told him that he was not aware of it and did not agree that his students should hang posters, but could understand them because the government was leading the country on a suicidal path. Mr. Buchbut became very angry and started to shout and insult Rabbi Weizman.

Some of the students heard about the incident and decided, without asking permission, to protest against MK Buchbut's verbal abuse of Rabbi Weizman. At 16.00, about 30 students went to stand opposite the Buchbut residence where with posters. Buchbut's wife, Karen, telephoned him at a Labor meeting and after a few minutes, he arrived with about 10

backers, rushing toward the students, pushing them and telling them to vacate the street. When they refused, he and his men started to push harder; our students pushed back. His wife, Karen, came out with an iron pole in her hand and beat Mr. Bezael Dahab, a reporter and photographer for a local paper, injuring his arm (Mr. Dahab pressed charges at the police station against Mr. Buchbut).

When the students started leaving the scene, the police arrived and Mr. Buchbut ordered the officer in charge to arrest seven of them.

The police accepted the complaints of the Buchbut family, before taking the testimony from the students, and when Shabbat came in, the students refused to give their side. The police had to ask the court to hold them longer in order to take their testimony and verify it. The judge gave the police five days to investigate, but the police, after 24 hours, released all the students.

MOSHE BARCHAD,
Executive Director,
Yeshivat Ma'alot Ya'acov
Ma'alot.

NATIONAL DISGRACE

Sir, - My beloved son David Rosenfeld (of blessed memory) who lived in Israel, was brutally murdered by a gang of PLO terrorists while alone and working in his office at Herodion. They were caught, found guilty, and sentenced to life in prison. After serving less than three years, they were released in a "prisoner exchange" and went to Jordan. We were assured they would not be allowed to return to Israel.

Now, this government has not only "allowed back" countless former prisoners and killers of Jewish civilians (including the murderers of my son), but these same PLO terrorists are being hailed as heroes in their villages, and many of them are now applying for duty to serve on the new Palestinian Police Force. This is a national disgrace.

grace and spitting on the graves of all innocent Jewish victims of Arab terror.

The government must be held responsible if it does not do everything possible to protect its citizens from these attacks. By allowing re-entry to Arabs with a prior record of murdering Jewish civilians, it is encouraging more such barbaric acts and proving once again to the world that Jewish blood is cheap.

Peres, Rabin et al, in carrying out their policy of peace at any price (à la Chamberlain) are intent upon giving up not only the territory and security of the sacred Jewish homeland, but in the process are destroying the moral and spiritual fiber of the country.

DINA BLOCK
Woodbridge, New Jersey.

CLEMENCY FOR POLLARD

Sir, - I am distressed by the statement attributed to me in the Post of April 28 under the headline, "Pollard sees no hope for '95 parole." that I had "charged the Rabin government with abandoning Pollard." I never made such a statement, I do not believe it and it is not supported by the rest of the story, which states in part: "Reich noted that government leaders personally appealed to the Americans on Pollard's behalf."

All of us in the effort to win clemency for Jonathan Pollard are grateful to Prime Minister Rabin for raising the Pollard issue directly with President Clinton. We wish the Israeli government will continue to keep the matter on the front burner vis-à-vis Washington, and raise the stakes. If it does, I believe Jonathan Pollard will be released. He has been in prison long enough.

SEYMOUR D. REICH,
President,
American Zionist Movement
New York.

LOAN GUARANTEES

Sir, - I am amazed at the non-reaction of the Israeli public to the new Israeli government's botch-up due to a disagreement between the Bank of Israel and the Finance Ministry. We are losing millions of dollars because the money of the guarantees is sitting in a Swiss bank earning half the interest of what we are paying [the United States government] on the money.

It is estimated that we have lost tens of millions of dollars. We are not told the exact amount, but only that it is not serious and some stupid excuse that it is not really a loss. We of course will have to cough up for this by paying extra taxes. This is irresponsible and inexcusable.

In any "normal" country, the government would have fallen because of this. What has happened to the opposition?

SOLOLY SACKS
Kochav Yair.

The 'other side' as ordinary people

WALID SADEK

THE age-old conflict between Israelis and Palestinians has created a deep crisis of trust between them. We are now poised on the edge of the abyss.

There has been occupation on the one hand, violence and infidelity on the other. The first has resulted in discrimination, detentions, killing and humiliation; the second has created the context for negative Palestinian and Jewish stereotypes to flourish, for fiercely prejudicial stands to consolidate.

For generations, Jews and Arabs have lived in the shadow of bloody wars. Amid suffering and casualties, they have turned the wheel of conflict and violent accusations ever faster. And the cycle of blood continues.

There is a stone wall between the two societies; with the years it has become even more solid. And as those negative stereotypes have grown, so has the wish to stay apart from a foe perceived as cruel and murderous.

The division between our two peoples finds expression on both sides of the barricade, in opposition to a peace agreement because "there's no one to make peace with."

Now is just the time to close this gap. Granted, the task is difficult. Signing documents, like shaking hands at festive ceremonies, cannot in itself bridge the gap that has been created throughout all the years the two peoples have lived

side by side, but each against the other.

The psychological confrontation of peoples nursing negative images of each other must be put to the test through coexistence.

They have fears, hardships. Together, we must build a better future

through the frictions of daily life. Only interaction on the economic, agricultural, educational and social level can rehabilitate each people in the other's eyes - and in its own.

That kind of interaction is no naive wish. It can be achieved if - but only if - we in the region can learn to weave a fabric serving the common interests of both sides. Only a situation that brings benefits to both Palestinians and Israelis - and is maintained by both - can gradually erase the notion of segregation and replace it with integration.

THESE ARE historic days. An era in which mutual trust can be created and the Israeli-Palestinian past rehabilitated is opening up. Changing our concepts is primarily a function of correctly reading

the newly-signed agreement.

Because of the gap that separated them, each side had looked forward to some miraculous part, one that would fulfill all its expectations. They did not want to re-

cognize that such an outcome would come only at the cost of the rights and aspirations of the other nation.

But we are moving toward a compromise which cannot satisfy everyone fully. It embodies Israeli and Palestinian concessions sealed by handshakes and signatures, but the feeling on each side is that it gave more than it should have.

Despite the skeleton of a future settlement, there is dissatisfaction on both sides. Each feels defrauded.

The Palestinians should remember that Jewish-Israeli society comprises two great paradigms. One advocates a Greater Israel and refuses to give up "one inch of land," while the other supports territorial concessions to advance peace.

The Palestinians should know that removal of the second alter-

native will only promote and validate the trend of Greater Israel as an answer to the State of Israel's security and economic problems. Power of attorney will be handed over to those who wish to deny the rights and aspirations of the Palestinian people.

The challenge Yasser Arafat faces is the transition from a revolutionary society to statehood. He must know how to ensure his people's welfare and set them on the road to peace and democracy. At the same time, he must help them to develop the sort of respect for the law that does not exist in a revolutionary society.

Israelis, for their part, must remember that if - Heaven forbid - extremist groups sabotage the peace process, the outcome will be a cruel bloodbath. If the Palestinians arrive at a situation where they have nothing left to lose, they will struggle like those who have no other option.

These are the things that can build the confidence and trust needed to bridge the gaps between us.

Listening to the wishes of the people on the other side. Understanding their fears and hardships. Realizing that they, too, are not united in outlook, but comprise a wide spectrum from extremism to moderation. Most important: trusting that we are on the threshold of a better Middle East.

The writer is a Meretz MK and deputy minister of agriculture.

POSTSCRIPTS

A 6-YEAR-OLD boy fell into an icy alpine river near Innsbruck, Austria, and was swept away. Firefighters pulled his body from the water several kilometers downstream. The air temperature was minus 4°C, the water 2°C. The boy was submerged for 65 minutes.

He was clearly dead: by drowning, hypothermia, exposure.

And yet he survived and - a few months later - was back at school, perfectly recovered.

By the time he was pulled from

the river, the unnamed boy's heart had stopped beating and his body temperature had plummeted to 16°C, far below the point at which hypothermia is usually fatal. Attempts to revive him by cardiopulmonary resuscitation were unsuccessful.

According to a report in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, his miraculous survival was partially due, ironically, to the sudden and extreme cold he endured, which slowed his metabolism dra-

matically and reduced his body's need for oxygen-rich blood, doctors concluded.

At the hospital, the boy's blood was gradually rewarmed by cardiopulmonary bypass, which took the place of his useless heart and lungs while the blood circulated outside of his body.

For about an hour and a half, his blood was pumped out of a vein in his thigh, through the artificial lung that replenished it with oxy-

gen, and back into an artery. When his body temperature had risen to 33°, his heartbeat resumed and blood pressure began to approach normal.

Six days later, the boy's breathing tube was removed and his condition began to improve. Five months later, "he had almost fully recovered, and was able to return to kindergarten." The only apparent lasting symptom was a weak or disrupted nerve sensation in the extremities.

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Accord will cost industry \$1.4b

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE autonomy agreement will cost local industrial firms \$1.4 billion, or 4% of total sales, according to a Manufacturers Association survey published yesterday.

The 370 firm survey - conducted during October-November - reveals that about 36% of the country's firms will suffer as a result of competition arising from the implementation of autonomy.

Manufacturers Association director-general Yoram Bilzovsky emphasized that production costs are lower in the territories because

of cheaper labor costs and fewer health and environmental regulations.

According to the survey, local industry forecasts a small growth in exports to the autonomous areas. Approximately 30% of total exports to the territories will consist of food and beverages, about 20% construction and building materials, 15% metal goods, 10% chemical products, and 10% textiles and clothing.

"Industrial sales are expected to

fall \$800m. in net terms over the next three years. The decrease reflects a \$1.5b. drop in local market sales and a \$700m. rise in exports to the autonomous region," said the survey.

The survey shows that 74% of the firms questioned forecast competing firms will be established in the autonomy within three years. About 22% expect competing firms to start operating within a year. Bilzovsky said textile and food plants will be established be-

fore chemical, metal, rubber, and plastic factories.

Approximately 85% of the respondents said they are interested in cooperation agreements with investors in the autonomous areas.

The rubber and plastics industry expressed the highest enthusiasm for such agreements.

According to the survey, the fall in sales resulting from autonomy is likely to lead to the lay-off of 9,000 workers. The textile and industrial building products fields will be the hardest hit.

'Vegetable growers won't pay the price of autonomy'

JOSE ROSENFELD

A JOINT Treasury-Agriculture Ministry committee will issue recommendations in a week for compensating vegetable growers from autonomy-related damages, the Agriculture Ministry reported yesterday.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat promised to Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsur that vegetable growers will not pay the price of the autonomy agreement and will be compensated for the damage it imposes on them.

Tsur presented Shohat with a plan to protect the growers which will compensate them for 20 percent of their production costs, whether they continue growing crops or not. In this way, said Tsur, surpluses will shrink and the growers will be compensated for the expected drop in prices as cheaper goods from the territories enter the market. The estimated cost of the plan is NIS 500 million over five years.

Shohat has previously rejected Tsur's program, saying the cost was too high. Yesterday, he again refused to commit himself to the program pending the joint committee's review of the actual damages the growers are expected to incur.

Both poultry and vegetable growers are expected to be hard hit by the flow of cheap produce from Gaza, despite the quotas imposed by the economic agreement with the Palestinians, according to Tsur.

Growers have already suffered a 25% drop in profits in the past year due to higher labor costs as a result of the closure and large surpluses.

Vegetable Council managing director Ephraim Shalom, who participated in the meeting, said that no produce from Gaza would enter the country until a compensation plan was agreed on. "If trucks with produce are allowed in, the growers will stop them with their bodies," he added.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

New Leumi savings plan: Bank Leumi yesterday introduced a new savings plan offering customers full linkage to the dollar in addition to linkage to the world communications share index. Leumi's Koach (Power) Communications Plan is a two-year savings plan fully linked to the dollar. In addition to a special dollar-linked bonus of 2%. Also, half of the savings principal is linked to the rise in the world communications share index.

Electric Corp. plans new electricity-manufacturing project: Israel Electric Corp.'s board of directors senior tender committee has approved funds of \$1.8 million for Water Planning for Israel to test the possibility of expanding a tunnel that had been dug for a water tunnel project that ended up being canceled. IEC plans to use the tunnel for its drawing-storing project which is intended to manufacture 800 megawatts of electricity at the Parsa site in Ein Bokek. The company plans to invest \$750m. in the project which is to begin in the year 2000.

Alumayer and Golan Plastic Products of Shaar HaGolan have signed a five-year contract to develop, produce and market various plastic products and aluminum profiles for windows and doors. Alumayer will purchase profiles and other products from Golan Plastics, at a price of some \$500,000 per year.

Meir Ezra subsidiary to make fish products: A fish products company is to be established by E.M. International BV, a Dutch subsidiary of meat products manufacturer Meir Ezra, together with a third party. E.M.I. will invest some \$2m. in the project.

French hotel chain looks to build here: The French Accor hotel chain wants to build eight to 10 hotels here. The Tourism Ministry announced yesterday. The chain, among the largest in France, specializes in popularly priced accommodation.

WORLD BRIEFS

American Publishing offers shares: American Publishing Company, a wholly-owned US subsidiary of Hollinger Inc., announced yesterday that it offered for sale 7.3 million shares in the US, Canada and Europe, at an initial public offering price of \$13 a share. Hollinger will control 95% of APC after the offering. APC is the second-largest newspaper publishing group in the US and its interests include the *Chicago Sun-Times* and *The Jerusalem Post*.

US productivity shows minimal improvement: The productivity of American businesses advanced just 0.5 percent in the first quarter, the weakest improvement in nearly a year, the government said yesterday.

At the same time, the Labor Department report suggested inflationary pressures may be building, as unit labor costs shot up at the highest rate in three years.

The growth in non-farm productivity, defined as output per number of hours worked, was the slowest since a 0.4 percent decline in the second quarter of last year.

It also was dramatically less than the revised 6.4% surge in the final three months of 1993, which had been the best performance since a 6.9% advance in the first quarter of 1989.

US jobless claims rise 17,000: The number of out-of-work Americans filing the first time for state unemployment benefits rose by 17,000 last week, the government reported yesterday.

The increase, much larger than what most economists had expected, came after a decline of 31,000 the previous week. That had been the first drop in a month. The report was released a day before the government was to announce unemployment figures for April. AP

French Central Bank cuts key rate: The Bank of France unexpectedly cut its key intervention rate to 5.6% from 5.7% yesterday when it carried out a securities repurchase.

The bank also tightened market conditions slightly by draining 600 million francs of liquidity. It allocated tenders totaling 49.7 billion francs, compared to 50.3 billion francs in maturing securities repurchase agreements.

Yesterday's repurchase will mature on May 17. AP

Coffee prices hit five-year high: Coffee prices have hit a new five-year high, the International Coffee Organization said yesterday.

The daily market indicator price for May 4 - calculated Thursday - was at \$0.9175 a pound, up from \$0.9011 on May 3. AP

Continental Airlines posts smaller loss: Continental Airlines Inc. reported a smaller loss for the latest quarter yesterday on Thursday but noted that its results were "severely impacted" by poor weather in the U.S. northeast.

The Houston-based carrier said it lost \$71.6 million in the first quarter, down from a larger loss of \$109.5 million a year earlier. Revenues were flat at \$1.4 billion. Reuter

West German unemployment rising more slowly: Employment figures issued yesterday indicate the recession is having less impact on the labor market in western Germany.

Unemployment in west Germany rose in April on a seasonally adjusted basis, the Federal Labor Office said, but the unadjusted jobless rate fell.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rose to 2.59 million from 2.57 million in March but the unemployment rate, which is based on unadjusted figures, slipped to 8.4% from 8.5%. Reuter

Mixed reviews for Clinton's dollar rescue

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Clinton administration's defense of the dollar in foreign currency markets is drawing less than universal praise.

A chief congressional critic called it a "risky sideshow" that will only waste taxpayers' money, while some private economists questioned whether the action was justified, given the soaring US trade deficit.

The administration, of course, saw things differently. It defended its dollar rescue effort as a necessary warning to currency traders not to undervalue the greenback.

"These operations reflect our view that recent movements in exchange markets have gone beyond what is justified by economic fundamentals," Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen said in announcing the joint intervention on Wednesday.

The Federal Reserve and the central banks of 15 other nations joined to support the dollar in the biggest coordinated effort of its type since August 1992. The US currency has been threatening to break through a post-World War II low against the Japanese yen and a six-month low against the German mark.

The effort was an initial success, with the dollar strengthening further yesterday after receiving an initial boost on Wednesday.

In mid-morning trading in New York, one dollar was buying 1.6667 German marks, higher than its closing price of 1.6535 in New York on Wednesday. The dollar was being quoted at 102.80 yen, up from a close of 101.85 yen in New York Wednesday.

A senior Treasury official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the administration wanted to drive home the point that it believed the dollar's recent weakness "has been excessive in light of the fundamentals of recovery, low inflation and prudent fiscal and monetary policies" being followed in the United States.

But Rep. James Leach, an Iowa Republican, branded the intervention, in which the Fed and



Bentsen: Recent movements in exchange markets have gone beyond what is justified by economic fundamentals. (AP)

other central banks sold other currencies and bought dollars, a "risky sideshow" because "any effect is likely to be short-term: hours, days, perhaps weeks."

Leach said that with more than \$880 billion in currencies traded daily around the world, the market has become too large to be influ-

enced for long by the limited interventions governments can make, even when acting together.

A review of the futile efforts of the British and French to prop up the pound and the franc in 1992 and 1993 indicates that, in what amounted to a high-stakes poker game, the only losers were the taxpayers of Britain and France," said Leach, the ranking Republican on the House banking committee.

Many private economists agreed with Leach, saying the dollar will undoubtedly come under further downward pressure, unless there are changes in other economic fundamentals.

Some predicted that the Federal Reserve, which has already boosted short-term interest rates three times since February, will be forced to move again soon in an effort to defend the dollar. Raising interest rates is another way a country has to support the value of its currency.

Bentsen's public comments and the coordinated intervention were aimed at countering a widely held perception among currency traders that the Clinton administration secretly wanted the dollar to fall further as a way of narrowing America's huge trade deficit with Japan.

By making Japanese goods more expensive for Americans and US products cheaper in Japan, a weaker dollar and a stronger yen should, over time, narrow the huge trade imbalance between the two nations.

C. Fred Bergsten, head of the Institute of International Economics, a Washington-based research group, faulted the administration for switching gears.

He said US officials should have let the markets continue to put downward pressure on the dollar as a way of addressing America's trade gap.

Other economists, however, complained that markets were still confused about Clinton administration policy, given continued tough talk about Japan's trade barriers.

Hachsharat Hayishuv profits up 33% in '93

COMPANY RESULTS

RACHEL NEIMAN and GALIT LIPKIS BECK

HACHSHARAT Hayishuv (Israel Land Development) Hotels has announced a 33 percent increase in 1993 net profits to NIS 5.6 million, from NIS 4.2m in 1992.

As part of the parent company Israel Land Development Corporation's reorganization, the hotel division took over management of veteran record company Hed Arzi, adding NIS 58.7m in revenues on sales to the hotel division's NIS 61.4m. Total revenue for 1993 came to NIS 120m, twice

the NIS62.8m. reported the previous year.

Cost of sales also doubled, at NIS 88.9m, in 1993 as compared to NIS 44.3m for the same period in 1992. A 2% rise was registered in the annual gross profit margin, which stood at 25% in 1993 as compared with 23% in 1992.

The company owns the Rimoni Inn, Gali Kinneret, Gali Eilat and Neptune hotels and subsidiary Rimoni Guest Houses.

Hed Arzi's talent roster includes both local artists as well as the Warner and BMG catalogues. The company's subsidiaries include the Ma'ariv and Osnath publishing divisions and Mabab Distribution.

Crystal has announced a NIS 1.8m. net profit for the first quarter, an increase of NIS 200,000 in the same period in 1993.

Revenues for the first quarter were NIS 29m., up NIS 4m. over last year. Cost of sales was NIS 24m., up NIS 3.5m., representing a 1% drop in gross profit margin - 18% in 1994.

The company attributed the growth in sales to increased imports in a range of products, principally refrigerators and microwave ovens.

L.M. Lipski reported a net first quarter loss of NIS 800,000, compared with a net profit of

NS 2.66m. last year. Management said the fall was mainly due to losses in its securities portfolio.

The sharp fall in prices on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange during the first quarter of the year reduced Lipski's securities portfolio by NIS 2.9m. At the end of the reported period, Lipski's investment portfolio totaled NIS 36m.

Topline, the Israeli Importing & Marketing Electric Appliances Company, completed the first quarter with a net profit of NIS 124,000, compared with a net profit of NIS 7,000 last year.

Sales rose to NIS 44m. from NIS 28.5m. The increase was largely due to the inclusion of Crystal Machinery & Electric Appliances in the financial statements since the second quarter of 1993.

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South African Economic Statistics

	Prices 4.5.94	Prices 26.4.94	% Change
Exchange rates:			
Commercial rand (buy)	3.545	3.615	1.94%
Financial rand (buy)	4.100	4.895	5.93%
Interest rates:			
Money market (BA)	10.55%	10.65%	-0.94%
Escom 1994 (Ry)	10.40%	10.35%	0.48%
Escom 2008	12.29%	12.38%	-0.73%
Escom 2020	12.82%	12.93%	-0.85%
RSA 150	12.82%	12.94%	-0.93%
Prices: UTs			
OM Investors	14.47%	13.95%	3.73%
Guardbank (buy)	35.0371	33.8231	3.59%
UAL Gilt	12.5913	12.4438	1.19%
Max Income	10.6465	10.6159	0.29%
Shares (close)			
De Beers	107.50	108.25	-0.69%
Vaal Reef	402.00	387.00	3.88%
Anglo American	223.00	215.50	3.48%
Barlows	35.00	31.75	10.24%
SA Brews	97.00	92.00	5.43%
Sasol	25.00	24.00	4.17%
Tiger Oats	56.00	48.25	16.06%
Iscor	3.35	3.24	3.40%
JSE Actuaries Overall	5.291	5.068	4.41%

COMMENTS: The value of the Commercial Rand measured against a basket of currencies, plummeted 93% in the first four months of the year, compared with a decline of 6.7% in the same period last year. The latest Standard Bank figures show. Analysts add the collapse responsible for the fall were the inflation differential between SA and her major trading partners, and the country's balance of payments problems. The magnitude of the fall in the past few months was in line with expectations in the run-up to the elections. Importers' fear that the Financial Rand would be scrapped after the election, combined with the conspicuous absence of the Reserve Bank in the market, sent the Rand into a downward spiral.

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Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (S.5.94)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	3.825	4.000	4.750
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	3.625	3.750	4.250
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	3.425	3.500	4.125
U.S. dollar (\$25,000)	3.225	3.250	3.875
Yen (10 million yen)	0.625	0.750	0.875

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (S.5.94)

Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Banknotes	Buy	Sell	Rep.
U.S. dollar	3.2480	3.2520	1.00	3.2480	3.2520	3.2500
German mark	2.9901	3.0322	1.00	2.9901	3.0322	2.9900
French franc	4.4702	4.5422	1.00	4.4702	4.5422	4.4700
Japanese yen (100)	2.9128	2.9539	1.00	2.9128	2.9539	2.9125
Dutch florin	1.5587	1.6192	1.00	1.5587	1.6192	1.5585
Swiss franc	3.1120	3.1417	1.00	3.1120	3.1417	3.1115
Swedish krona	0.3867	0.3922	1.00	0.3867	0.3922	0.3865
Norwegian krona	0.4148	0.4208	1.00	0.4148	0.4208	0.4145
Danish krone	0.4678	0.4683	1.00	0.4678	0.4683	0.4675
Finland mark	0.5827	0.5928	1.00	0.5827	0.5928	0.5825
Canadian dollar	2.1844	2.1847	1.00	2.1844	2.1847	2.1845
Australian dollar	2.1454	2.1766	1.00	2.1454	2.1766	2.1450
S. African rand	0.6282	0.6393	1.00	0.6282	0.6393	0.6280
Belgian franc (10)	0.8718	0.8841	1.00	0.8718	0.8841	0.8715
Austrian schilling (10)	2.2802	2.2861	1.00	2.2802	2.2861	2.2800
Italian lire (1000)	1.8718	1.8770	1.00	1.8718	1.8770	1.8715
Jordanian dinar	—	—	1.00	—	—	—
Egyptian pound	—	—	1.00	—	—	—
ECU	3.4826	3.5222	1.00	3.4826	3.5222	3.4825
Irish punt	4.3676	4.4088	1.00	4.3676	4.4088	4.3675
Spanish peseta (100)	2.1895	2.1980	1.00	2.1895	2.1980	2.1895

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

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Brazilians bid farewell to Senna

SAO PAULO, Brazil (AP) - Brazilians bid farewell yesterday to Ayrton Senna, a national hero and a world champion whose death sent shock waves and recriminations throughout the world of auto racing.

Senna, 34, a three-time Formula One driving champion, died of multiple head injuries when his Williams-Renault slammed into a concrete wall at nearly 180 mph early in Sunday's San Marino Grand Prix at Imola, Italy.

While investigators sifted through the wreckage in Italy, the International Automobile Federation held an emergency meeting as the world governing body of racing began what promises to be a lengthy investigation.

In Brazil, millions of fans who felt an almost personal loss either attended services for Senna or followed the proceedings on national television.

Senna's body was flown from Paris to Brazil overnight, arriving at dawn on Wednesday. Thousands lined the 25-mile route into downtown Sao Paulo as the body was taken to the state legislature to lie in state, and thousands more ran alongside or followed in cars, on motorcycles and bicycles.

Sirens wailed and confetti rained down from high-rises onto the fire truck carrying the flag-draped coffin for burial yesterday.

The coffin was laid out on a bier amid dozens of floral wreaths, with banners in English and Portuguese. The family held a short service presided by a minister of the Rebirth Foundation, an evangelist



BEREAVED NATION - Fans of Ayrton Senna gather to bid farewell to their dead hero before his body is taken for burial.

sect to which Senna belonged.

Police estimated that 150,000 people will have viewed Senna's coffin before the funeral.

Charles Marzanasco, a spokesman for the Senna family, said racing celebrities attending the funeral included Jackie Stewart, Gerhard Berger, Emerson Fittipaldi and Alain Prost, as well as Williams team owner Frank Williams and McLaren's Ron Dennis.

President Itamar Franco said he also would attend. He declared three days of national mourning

and decorated Senna posthumously with the Grand Cross of Merit, one of Brazil's highest awards.

Marzanasco said only family members and friends will be allowed into the cemetery and radio and television stations broadcast appeals for the public to say its last goodbye at the legislature.

As Senna's coffin is lowered to its grave a special Air Force squadron will fly overhead and trace a huge heart in the sky.

Senna's death devastated Brazilians of all walks of life who saw

him as not only a sports hero, but a symbol of Brazilian excellence and youthful enthusiasm.

Veteran police officers and reporters said the last time a public figure was mourned by so many people was 40 years ago when President Getulio Vargas committed suicide in 1954.

Senna's loss is immeasurable for this country of 155 million people, struggling with 45 percent monthly inflation, widespread poverty and seemingly endless corruption scandals.

Mac. Haifa comfortably in driver's seat

DEREK FATTAL

THERE is an old saying in soccer, "First is first, and second is nowhere." That applies neatly to the season-long struggle between Maccabi Haifa and Maccabi Tel Aviv for the National League championship.

With just five rounds left, Tel Aviv's draw against Hapoel Tel Aviv in last week's derby has more or less ensured that the Haifaite will be the ones polishing the prestigious title silverware in the upcoming months. Tel Aviv's challenge faltered as Maccabi Haifa pulverized Hapoel Petah Tikva 6-0, to open up a four-point lead at the top.

Against any other team, Tel Aviv's cause would still be worth betting for. However, against Maccabi it will take nothing short of a miracle for the boys from the Big Orange to close the gap at this stage.

The Green Machine has not been beaten in the league for over a year, and has a vastly superior goal difference, meaning the Tel Avivians must snatch at least five more points than their rival in the coming matches. Roughly translated, this means Haifa drawing at least three of its five matches, or losing two, while Tel Aviv maintains a 100 percent record.

Maccabi Tel Aviv continues its challenge "away" to Hapoel Petah Tikva in the first game of a double-header at Bloomfield tomorrow.

row, while Maccabi Haifa is hosted by Maccabi Herzliya, currently languishing in 12th place just above the teams in the relegation zone. The top two should have no difficulty sweeping their respective opponents aside, although Haifa will be without the services of Ronnie Levy, Arik Benado and Ivan Getzko, scorer of a hat trick last week.

Betar Jerusalem also produced high figures in last Saturday's 6-1 win over Hapoel Holon. The team participates in what should be one of the more attractive matches of Round 35, away to Maccabi Netanya. The Betarists won their first clash of the season between the teams 5-1, with the second meeting a 1-1 draw.

Twice beaten by Hapoel Beersheba, the reds of Hapoel Tel Aviv will be hoping to exact revenge in the second contest at Bloomfield against the current fourth-placed side.

The bottom three clubs all take to the road to face opponents from the middle of the table. Hapoel Haifa, which props up the standings six points "adrift" of Hapoel Kfar Sava, seeks to rekindle its escape act against Hapoel Holon. Kfar Sava aims to repeat its 2-0 win of last weekend with a tough visit to Bnei Yehuda.

Ironi Ashdod is hosted by Maccabi Petah Tikva.

In the Second Division, Rishon LeZion is already promoted, and will no doubt display the talents that have taken the club to the big time against third-placed Betar Tel Aviv. Points are crucial for Betar, as it fights to clinch a promotion spot. Second-placed Beit Sh'an faces the same pressure away to Hapoel Hadera.

The Match of the Round in the Second Division brings together 4th- and 5th-placed Hapoel Taibe and Shimshon Tel Aviv. No love will be lost between these two, standing on level points in the battle for the playoff spot against the second-to-bottom team in the National League at the end of the season.

In the neither regions of table, Hapoel Daliat el-Carmel has already been relegated, with Maccabi Acre looking like serious candidates to take a fall with the northerners.

This weekend's National League fixtures (kick-off 5 p.m. tomorrow unless otherwise indicated): Maccabi Herzliya vs. Maccabi Haifa, Herzliya, 6 p.m.; Hapoel Petah Tikva vs. Maccabi Tel Aviv, Bloomfield, 6 p.m.; Hapoel Beersheba vs. Betar Jerusalem, Netanya; Hapoel Tel Aviv vs. Hapoel Beersheba, Bloomfield, 6 p.m.; Bnei Yehuda vs. Hapoel Kfar Sava, Hadera; Hapoel Holon vs. Hapoel Haifa, Holon; Maccabi Petah Tikva vs. Ironi Ashdod, Petah Tikva.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Kings owner sells interest in Argonauts

Bruce McNall, owner of the NHL's Los Angeles Kings, sold his interest in the Toronto Argonauts of Canadian Football League to The Sports Network yesterday.

Kings captain Wayne Gretzky and the estate of actor John Candy also sold their 20 percent interests in the club. McNall owned 60 percent.

Punk band invites Harding to join

Disgraced American figure skater Tonya Harding got a shot at a new career as a singer Wednesday when she was invited to join a punk rock band.

The White Trash Debutantes, which includes a 78-year-old grandmother and three male cross dressers, said it was negotiating with Harding's lawyers on the offer.

Lynam to coach Bullets

Jim Lynam, 52, who rose through the ranks to become coach and then GM of the Philadelphia 76ers, will be the new Washington Bullets coach.

Lynam replaces Wes Unseld, who coached the Bullets for nearly seven seasons before resigning after the last game of the season. When he quit, Unseld had been with the same team longer than any active NBA coach.

Carl Lewis coming for Rome track meet

Carl Lewis is returning to Rome's main track and field event after a seven-year absence. But the man who deposed him as world champion sprinter last year won't be there.

Organizers said yesterday that rival Linford Christie wasn't invited to the June 8 Golden Gala event, the first IAAF Grand Prix meet of the European season.

New Zealand cricketers stage fightback

Skipper Ken Rutherford and Mark Greatbatch led a spirited fightback after New Zealand had lost its first three wickets for just 24 against Worcestershire yesterday.

The early batsmen were found wanting against testing new ball bursts from James Brinkley and Neal Radford after New Zealand had set off in pursuit of the county side's first innings 343-7 declared.

Kerrigan attack suspects all agree to plead guilty

PORTLAND (AP) - The remaining three defendants in the attack on figure skater Nancy Kerrigan have worked out plea agreements.

Sources told The Associated Press that Shawn Eckardt, Shane Stant and Derrick Smith will plead guilty to conspiracy to commit second-degree assault and would serve 18 months in prison. Any fines will be set by the judge.

Prosecutor Norm Frink and lawyers for the three defendants told Multnomah County Circuit Judge Philip Abraham about the deal in a telephone conference meeting earlier this week.

Frink and Abraham declined to reveal details of the agreement. Reached at his home, Smith confirmed the deal and said he was satisfied with it.

Smith's attorney, Clayton Lance, would not talk about specifics of the agreement but said his client was adamant about not admitting to racketeering, the most serious charge in the indictment against him.

Earlier, Frink worked out plea bargains with Kerrigan's skating rival Tonya Harding and her ex-husband Jeff Gillooly. Eckardt, Stant and Smith were indicted March 21. They have confessed to their charges in the Janu-

ary 6 attack on Kerrigan but pleaded innocent in order to enter plea negotiations.

The talks have been going on since the indictments were issued. Eckardt helped set up the plot to assault Kerrigan in order to clear the way for Harding to win the US Figure Skating Championships.

Stant was the hit man in the attack. He admits he struck Kerrigan above the right knee after she worked out in Detroit prior to the US championships. With Kerrigan knocked out of the event, Harding won the title and a spot on the US Olympic team.

Smith, Stant's uncle, served as the go-between who funneled money from Gillooly and Eckardt to his nephew and drove the getaway car.

Harding pleaded guilty to conspiracy to hinder prosecution and was placed on three years' probation. She has begun serving 500 hours of community service, is to pay \$160,000 in fines and contributions and is undergoing counseling as part of plea bargain.

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Canada in hockey semis

MILAN (Reuters) - Canada took another step towards its first world ice hockey title in 33 years yesterday by scrambling to an unconvincing 3-2 quarter-final victory over the Czech Republic.

A late goal by Edmonton Oilers' right winger Shayne Corson set up a semifinal against Sweden in what will be a rematch of this year's dramatic Olympic ice hockey final, which the Swedes won on penalty shots.

Yesterday's game was riddled with errors by both sides and seemed to be heading into overtime when Corson picked up a pass from Joe Sakic close to the net with a minute 34 seconds left and forced the puck home.

The goal prompted frenzied Czech attacks and Canadian goaltender Bill Ranford, also of the Oilers, pulled off a superb close range save five seconds from time to deny center Josef Beranek.

Canada's victory mirrored their 3-2 overtime win over the Czechs in the quarter-final of this year's Olympic tournament. But this team, vastly different from the Olympic squad, will have to perform much better if it is to trouble the Swedes, who beat Italy 7-2 on Wednesday.

"We have room to grow and develop," Canadian coach George Kingston said.

Canadian center Geoff Sanderson admitted to nervousness and it was obvious the other players also had the jitters.

Pittsburgh Penguins' center Martin Straka opened the scoring in the fifth minute, taking advantage of lackluster defending after picking up a pass from Penguins' teammate Jaromir Jagr.

Canada tied it eight minutes later when Brendan Shanahan of the St. Louis Blues forced the puck into the net from close range. Canada took the lead in the 26th minute when Paul Kariya, the only player from the Olympic team, cleverly deflected a fierce blue line snap shot from Shanahan.

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British soccer cloud lifts after Arsenal's cup win

COPENHAGEN (AP) — British soccer has been under a cloud since the national teams of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland failed to qualify for the World Cup.

Arsenal picked up some lost pride for British soccer as the injury-riddled London side upset defending champion Parma of Italy 1-0 on striker Alan Smith's early goal in the Cup Winners' Cup final Wednesday night.

Losing finalist Parma is the team that edged out Maccabi Haifa in the second round of the competition in a heart-stopping penalty shoot-out.

"It was a very, very difficult task because we had to put out an injury-hit side against one of the best teams in Europe," said Arsenal's Scottish manager George Graham.

"We had a team of heroes tonight and none more so than Alan Smith who was outstanding and worked tirelessly up front as well as scoring the winning goal."

Smith, the Gunners' lone striker, scored the game-winning goal in the 19th minute after World Cup-bound Tomas Brolin of Sweden twice went close for Parma, including a shot that hit England goalie David Seaman's right post with 14 minutes gone.

Smith, a former English national team member, capitalized on a terrible mistake by Parma sweeper and captain Lorenzo Minotti.

Minotti tried to clear with an acrobatic bicycle, but the ball went to the unmarked Smith, who chested it down and volleyed home past goalie Luca Bucci from 18 meters.

"It was a terrific way to end the season," Smith said after perhaps the finest goal of his career. "There is nothing quite like scoring a goal that wins a final, especially in Europe."

Smith, 31, known for his phenomenal work-rate and dedication, had scored only one goal in Arsenal's road to the Cup Winners' Cup final and six goals during the domestic campaign.

Arsenal made a strong challenge but lost the Premier League race to Manchester United this season, finally settling for fourth place in the standings.

Graham, a former Arsenal star, has had great success in his eight



GUNNERS GLEE — Arsenal's captain Tony Adams (l) and goalkeeper David Seaman raise the European Cup Winners' Cup. (AP)

years at Highbury, winning two league championships, two league cup titles and an FA Cup final.

For many of Arsenal's fans — more than 12,000 singing, flag-waving supporters celebrated the victory at Copenhagen's Parken stadium — a league championship probably means more. After all, the Premier League is the endurance test in European soccer and Arsenal has 10 league championships, the last one in 1991.

"Although it's personally very satisfying to win my first European trophy I'm pleased for my players most of all," Graham said.

Star striker Ian Wright, who accepted the trophy from Swedish UEFA president Lennart Johansson, didn't play because of a one-match ban assessed after he received his second yellow card in the second leg of the semifinals against Paris St. Germain.

Defender Martin Keown (hamstring) and Danish midfielder anchor-man John Jensen (knee) were among the key players missing the final because of injuries.

Jensen damaged his knee after a vicious tackle by a Hungarian in a 3-1 exhibition victory for his native Denmark late last month.

Six Britons were arrested before the game with forged bank notes and stolen credit cards, while others escaped after robbing a watch shop, police said. There was no reported violence after the final.

And of course, there were celebrations galore for Arsenal which took the Cup Winners' Cup away from holders Parma. It was the Gunners' first European Trophy since 1970.

Everton's 40 years in the top flight will end tomorrow if they lose at home to Wimbledon. Oldham, Ipswich, Sheffield United and Southampton will no doubt give their supporters a few anxious moments as they attempt to avoid the dreaded drop. Swindon is already relegated.

In the First Division, three of the positions have been filled by Millwall, Leicester and Tranmere. One point at Southend on Sunday will see Derby completing the quartet who'll be battling Crystal Palace and Nottingham Forest in the Premier League next season.

United was given a boost on Tuesday with the news that goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel has a fair chance of recovering from a foot injury which threatened to keep him sidelined at Wembley.

Blackburn, which came so close to overtaking the Old Trafford Club on the final straight, at least have the satisfaction of qualifying for next season's UEFA Cup competition. Already, Manager Kenny Dalglish is looking to strengthen his squad and hasn't hidden his interest in Sunderland's highly rated striker Don Goodman. Blackburn brings the curtain down on its season at home to relegation-threatened Ipswich

much respect," Osborne said. "Tonight, we wanted to make sure they knew they'd get hit anytime they touched the puck."

Gaetan Duchesne scored with five minutes left for the Sharks, who now go home for the next three games in the best-of-7 series, which resumes tonight.

"They came out hard," San Jose forward Todd Elik said. "They worked hard — harder than we did, I guess."

Canucks 3, Stars 0
Pavel Bure scored two goals and Kirk McLean stopped 39 shots for his second shutout of the playoffs as visiting Vancouver took a 2-0 series lead. The Canucks are home for the next three games in the series.

McLean, 0-2 against the Stars in the regular season, made 16 saves in the

last night's scheduled games:
Atlanta at Miami
Seattle at Denver
San Antonio at Utah

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Wednesday's results:
Toronto 5, San Jose 1 (series tied 1-1)
Vancouver 3, Dallas 0 (Vancouver leads Dallas 2-0)

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New Jersey at Boston
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Barkley hits 56 as Suns sweep



OAKLAND (AP) — Charles Barkley turned in one of the best performances in NBA playoff history Wednesday night as the Phoenix Suns beat the Golden State Warriors 140-133 to sweep their first-round series. Barkley finished with 56 points, third-best effort in a playoff game, including a record 38 in the first half as the Suns moved closer to returning to the NBA Finals.

In the deciding Game 3, Barkley hit 23 of 31 shots from the field, had 14 rebounds and was 7-for-9 from the foul line. His 56 points

were bettered only by Michael Jordan's 63 in 1986 and Elgin Baylor's 61 in 1962.

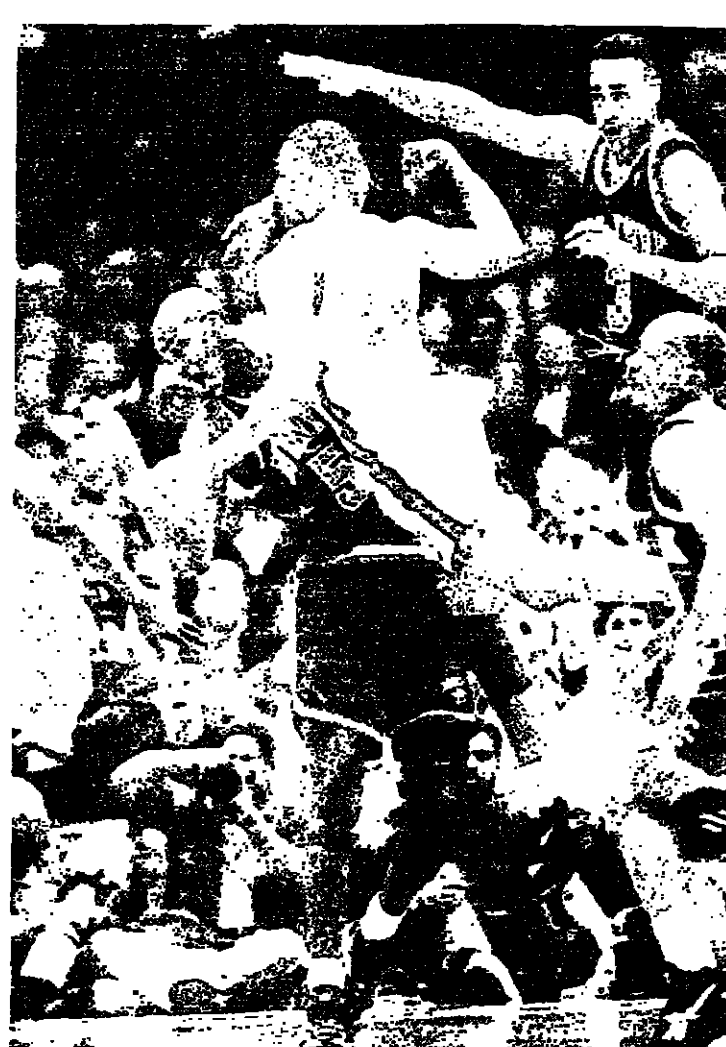
Trailing 107-106 entering the fourth quarter, Phoenix built its lead to 125-117 with 7:35 to play when Barkley converted a three-point play and notched his 50th point.

Golden State cut the lead to 131-129 on a basket by Latrell Sprewell, who had 27 points, with 2:07 left but couldn't get any closer. The Suns missed just three of their 19 shots in the final period.

Chris Mullin had 30 points for the Warriors, who were swept in a playoff series for the first time since 1967-68, when the Lakers won four straight in the Western

Conference finals. Dan Majerle had 24 points for the Suns and Kevin Johnson added 18 and 12 assists.

"Like I said before the series," Barkley said, "the only thing I feared was if we got in a series and tried to outscore them. We had to play defense and stop them. This



HARD LANDING — Nets' Kevin Edwards (21) loses the ball after he is fouled by Knicks' Charles Smith (3) and Greg Anthony (r) look on. (AP)

was only game that was a real shootout, but if we don't improve our defense we won't win a title."

In Wednesday night's other game, the New Jersey Nets stayed alive with a 93-92 overtime victory over the New York Knicks in Game 3.

The only Eastern Conference

game scheduled for last night was Miami trying to wrap up the series at home in Game 4 against top-seeded Atlanta.

Chicago, which gets the New York-New Jersey winner, and Indiana, which gets the Miami-Atlanta survivor, have already clinched in the East.

In last night's scheduled games in the West, Seattle was at Denver and Utah hosted San Antonio, both in Game 4. Seattle and Utah can both clinch their first-round series with wins.

Houston, leading 2-1, is at Portland in Game 4 tonight. The Suns play the winner of that series in the next round.

Nets 93, Knicks 92 (OT)
Chris Morris made his first free throws of the game with 1.5 seconds left in overtime to set up Game 4 tonight, again at the Meadowlands.

The Knicks rallied from a 16-point deficit in the second half. The Nets scored only nine points in the fourth period on 2-for-16 shooting.

John Starks' 3-pointer gave New York a 90-89 lead with 1:04 left in overtime, but Armon Gilliam gave the lead back to the Nets with a dunk 21 seconds later. Patrick Ewing's baseline jumper gave the Knicks a one-point lead, but Charles Oakley couldn't stop Morris' baseline drive, forcing him to foul. Morris finished with eight points.

Derrick Coleman finished with 25 points and 17 rebounds for the Nets.

NBA Playoff Glance
Quarter-finals (Best-of-5)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Indiana wins series 3-0
Chicago wins series 3-0
Miami leads Atlanta 2-1
Wednesday's results:
Nets 93, Knicks 92 (OT)
New York leads New Jersey 2-1

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Wednesday's results:
Phoenix 140, Golden State 133
Phoenix wins series 3-0
Seattle leads Denver 2-1
Houston leads Portland 2-1
Utah leads San Antonio 2-1

Last night's scheduled games:
Atlanta at Miami
Seattle at Denver
San Antonio at Utah

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Cubs halt Wrigley swoon; Bonilla leads Mets

CHICAGO (AP) — The Chicago Cubs stopped their club-record home losing streak at 12 games, beating the Cincinnati Reds 5-2 Wednesday for their first win of the season at Wrigley Field.

The Cubs, who broke a 92-year-old club record Tuesday, held a team meeting before the game, then went out at won at home for the first time since last September 22. Chicago's streak ended two short of the NL record set by the 1911 Boston Braves.

Steve Trachsel (3-2) allowed two runs and four hits in seven innings. Tom Browning (3-1) allowed four runs and seven hits in 3 1/2 innings.

Mets 7, Giants 4
Bobby Bonilla hit two home runs, the second a two-run shot in the bottom of the seventh inning to lift the Mets.

Bonilla, who homered in the sixth right-handed, hit his game-winning homer from the left side off Dave Burba (1-1), marking the fifth time in his career that he has hit homers from both sides in a game.

Barry Bonds hit a two-run homer for the Giants in the first inning, and was hit on the right elbow by an Eric Hillman in his next at-bat in the third. He left the game in the fourth for x-rays which were negative. He is listed as day-to-day with a bruise.

Braves 3, Marlins 0
Steve Avery pitched eight shutout innings to help the Braves end their worst losing streak in two years in Atlanta.

Avery (2-1) allowed four hits in eight innings as the Braves snapped a four-game losing streak and won for the third time in 12 games. The last time Atlanta had dropped nine of 11 was in April 1992.

Avery struck out eight and walked one. Greg McMichael allowed two hits

NATIONAL LEAGUE
East Division
W L Pct GB
Atlanta 16 10 .615 —
Montreal 16 11 .593 1/2
St. Louis 14 10 .581 2 1/2
New York 13 13 .500 3
Philadelphia 11 15 .423 5

Central Division
W L Pct GB
Cincinnati 17 9 .654 —
St. Louis 14 10 .581 2
Houston 15 11 .577 2
Pittsburgh 13 12 .520 3 1/2
Chicago 7 18 .280 9 1/2

West Division
W L Pct GB
San Francisco 14 12 .538 —
Colorado 12 13 .481 1
Los Angeles 12 15 .444 2
San Diego 8 19 .298 8



SECOND CENTURY — Tigers' Cecil Fielder watches the flight of his 200th career homer. (AP)

in the ninth but picked up his sixth save.

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Tigers 14, Rangers 7
Lou Whitaker hit a three-run homer and a grand slam to power host Detroit, who were helped by 13 walks.

Whitaker, who missed the last two games with a sore left foot, drove in a career-high seven runs. His three-run homer came off Texas starter Rick Reed (0-1) to ignite a six-run third, and he capped Detroit's six-run eighth with his third career grand slam.

The Tigers were leading 8-7 in the eighth when Alan Trammell, who had three hits and three RBIs, drove in two runs before Whitaker's blast.

Cecil Fielder and Travis Fryman also homered for Detroit. It was Fielder's 200th career round-tripper.

Jose Canseco drove in four runs, and

WEDNESDAY'S NL RESULTS:
Montreal 5, Los Angeles 4
New York 7, San Francisco 4
Chicago 5, Cincinnati 2
San Diego at Philadelphia (ppd.)
Houston 7, Pittsburgh 4
Atlanta 3, Florida 6
St. Louis 6, Colorado 5

WEDNESDAY'S AL RESULTS:
Detroit 14, Texas 7
Minnesota 8, Milwaukee 7
Boston 4, Seattle 2
Kansas City 6, Toronto 4 (10)
Chicago 6, Cleveland 1
Baltimore 4, Oakland 3 (10)
California 7, New York 6 (13)

Manuel Lee had three hits for Texas. Red Sox 4, Mariners 2

Danny Darwin allowed four hits in 7 1/2 innings and Mike Greenwell and Mo Vaughn homered to lead host Boston.

Darwin (5-1) retired the last 13 batters he faced, but the final one forced him out. Felix Fermin hit a liner off Darwin, who threw to first for the out, then knelt in pain and was replaced by Todd Frohworth. Frohworth, in his first appearance since being called up Tuesday from Pawtucket of the International League, picked up his first save.

Angels 7, Yankees 6 (13)
Center fielder Chad Curtis made two sparkling plays to cut off a run, then Damon Easley singled home the winner in the 13th inning as California snapped a six-game losing streak in Anaheim.

WEDNESDAY'S AL RESULTS:
Detroit 14, Texas 7
Minnesota 8, Milwaukee 7
Boston 4, Seattle 2
Kansas City 6, Toronto 4 (10)
Chicago 6, Cleveland 1
Baltimore 4, Oakland 3 (10)
California 7, New York 6 (13)

The Angels loaded the bases with one out in the 13th on singles by Jorge Fabrega, Harold Reynolds and Gary Disarcena off Don Falt (0-2). Easley won it by grounding a single through the left side of the drawn-in infield.

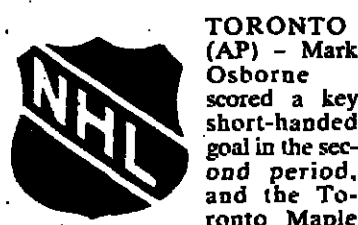
Bob Patterson (1-1) was the winner. The Angels ended an eight-game home losing streak.

AMERICAN LEAGUE
East Division
W L Pct GB
Boston 20 7 .741 —
Baltimore 16 10 .615 2 1/2
New York 16 10 .615 2 1/2
Toronto 15 12 .556 5
Detroit 10 15 .400 9

Central Division
W L Pct GB
Chicago 15 11 .577 —
Milwaukee 14 12 .538 1
Cleveland 13 12 .520 1 1/2
Kansas City 12 12 .500 2
Minnesota 11 17 .393 6

West Division
W L Pct GB
Texas 11 14 .440 —
Seattle 11 15 .423 1/2
California 10 18 .357 2 1/2
Oakland 9 19 .326 4

Leafs rout Sharks to even series



Leafs routed the San Jose Sharks 5-1 Wednesday night to tie their Western Conference semifinal at a game apiece.

Dmitri Mironov, Mike Gartner, Doug Gilmour and Wendel Clark also scored for Toronto, which got three power-play goals after going 0-for-5 with an extra skater in Game 1.

"At times the other night, we were guilty of showing them too

much respect," Osborne said. "Tonight, we wanted to make sure they knew they'd get hit anytime they touched the puck."

Gaetan Duchesne scored with five minutes left for the Sharks, who now go home for the next three games in the best-of-7 series, which resumes tonight.

"They came out hard," San Jose forward Todd Elik said. "They worked hard — harder than we did, I guess."

Canucks 3, Stars 0
Pavel Bure scored two goals and Kirk McLean stopped 39 shots for his second shutout of the playoffs as visiting Vancouver took a 2-0 series lead. The Canucks are home for the next three games in the series.

McLean, 0-2 against the Stars in the regular season, made 16 saves in the

last night's scheduled games:
Atlanta at Miami
Seattle at Denver
San Antonio at Utah

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Wednesday's results:
Toronto 5, San Jose 1 (series tied 1-1)
Vancouver 3, Dallas 0 (Vancouver leads Dallas 2-0)

LAST NIGHT'S SCHEDULED GAMES
New Jersey at Boston
NY Rangers at Washington

Bannister reflects on historic run, Landy challenge

to do it." Bannister's incentives for the record-breaking run were that he missed winning a medal in the 1,500 meters in the 1952 Olympics, and soon his life would be consumed in the grinding demands of a medical career.

On May 6, 1954, Bannister clocked three minutes, 59.4 seconds. It made him a 20th-century celebrity, right up there with Charles Lindbergh and Edmund Hillary.

At the end of the year, Bannister quit, at age 25.

The record has since been lowered to 3:44.39 by Algeria's Morceli.

Sir Roger Bannister, neurosurgeon and editor of "Brain and Bannister's Clinical Neurology" and another textbook called "Autonomic Failure," former chairman of Britain's Sports Council, has recently retired as master of Pembroke College, Oxford.

Athletics offered relief from the dreariness and austerity of a country still recovering from World War II. Few could travel because of currency restric-

tions but as a runner, Bannister visited Germany, New Zealand and the US.

"If things had gone according to plan, I would have retired in 1952, because I had set my heart really on trying to get a gold medal in the Olympic games in the 1,500 meters.

"But my plans went awry, which is always a very valuable lesson in life..." His half-hour workouts hadn't prepared him to run heats, semifinals and finals on consecutive days.

"When I got to the last corner in the final, absolutely in the right place, just on the shoulder of the leaders, ready to sprint, which I had always been able to do before, I suddenly found that I couldn't sprint.

"A great surprise to me, very disconcerting..." Round numbers have their own magic, and 4:00.0 had loomed larger with every passing year.

"Gundar Hagg held the world record, and the fact that it stuck for nine years was used as an argument for some people to say, well, there has to be a barrier

somewhere. Maybe this is the barrier," Bannister said.

Landy was coming to Scandinavia that summer aiming at the record, so Bannister planned to strike in the season's first meet, the Amateur Athletic Association vs. Oxford University on May 6.

Only when the wind calmed close to starting time did Bannister decide to go for it.

With Chris Brasher setting the pace, they ran a lap in 57.5, then 60.7 — 1:58.2 for the half mile. Chris Chatway, a distance specialist, paced a third lap of 62.3 — 3:00.4 — and the chase was on.

Brasher remembers the crowd being all over the track by the time he finished. The public address announcer called out every record that had been broken, from the Iffley Road mark to the world record, before giving the time.

"THREE"

The rest, Brasher remembered, was drowned in pandemonium.

The sensational record, so long beyond reach, would stand just 46 days. Chatway accepted an invitation to

run against Landy in Turku, Finland on June 21. In "First Four Minutes," his memoir published in 1955, Bannister said he was "a little upset" by the thought that his pacemaker might bring out Landy's best.

With Chatway trailing all the way, Landy clocked 3:58.0.

"Seeing Chris on his heels (Landy) took fright as he had never done during his solo runs. Almost for the first time, under the stimulus of real competition, he unleashed a tremendous finish," Bannister wrote.

Landy and Bannister met August 9 in the "Miracle Mile" at the Empire Games in Vancouver, Canada.

"Only ran five races that year, but the race before the Empire Games was the British championships and I ran a last quarter in 52 to make him (Landy) realize that unless he led, he didn't have a chance of winning," Bannister said.

Always a front-runner, Landy set a hot pace, leading by as much as 15 yards before Bannister caught up as the bell rang for the final lap.

"Around the last bend, I think the crowd was making so much noise he couldn't hear whether I was behind, or whether he'd dropped me, and he looked over his left shoulder, and I passed him on his right shoulder," Bannister said, relishing the recollection.

"It was a coincidence of events, a rather strange coincidence, that in that split second he was looking left, I decided to overtake. When he looked to the front, I had already seized a minor advantage of surprise, but he did not then attack."

Bannister ran the race of his life, 3:58.8. Landy became the first man to break four minutes and lose a race.

Bannister's brilliant summer ended with victory in the European Championship in the 1,500 meters, in a games record of 3:43.8.

As Bannister remembered those last races, there was a flash of the competitive intensity that once drove him. "They settled the question of whether, at that particular time, I was able to cope with the various opposition," he said.

He has long believed that 3:30 is possible, but doesn't expect those big zeroes to ever come around again. "The human race, without genetic experimentation, will not break three minutes."

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And don't miss, **EVERY WEEKDAY**: extended financial pages; world stock market reports; Israeli, American and British sports coverage; local and foreign feature stories; and provocative, controversial cartoons by Oleg, Ronnen and Lurie.

New pay pact for government spokesmen

A NEW wage agreement covering spokesmen in the public sector was signed yesterday between the Association of Journalists in the Public Sector and the Histadrut, and the government and public employers.

The agreement, which covers the years 1993-1996, is similar to the one recently signed with the academics, engineers, and practical engineers in the public sector. It includes the addition of three upper salary grades.

Haberfeld says Ramon on verge of deal with Likud

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

HISTADRUT Secretary-General Haim Haberfeld threw a bombshell yesterday when he announced that MK Haim Ramon, head of the Ramon-Meretz-Shas list, is on the verge of signing a coalition agreement with the Likud.

Ramon denied the charge, calling it "another crude lie in Labor's series of lies and attacks. Haberfeld is refusing to take notice of the principles we set down, that after the elections we would first approach Labor for a coalition. Labor and the Likud have stopped attacking each other and are both attacking us. This cannot be accidental."

Haberfeld shocked Labor ministers and MKs at a Political Bureau meeting, when he told them that Ramon and MK Ya'acov Shamai, head of the Likud list, are in advanced negotiations and intend to sign the agreement on Monday, a day before the Histadrut elections.

"I have in my possession protocols indicating that Ramon and the Likud list leaders are engaged in

intensive negotiations for a coalition agreement and have reached almost complete understanding on most issues," Haberfeld said.

Haberfeld assured the stunned bureau members that his statement was not a gimmick, that his sources are reliable, and that he took full responsibility for what he said. He has called a press conference for Sunday to give details he has concerning Ramon's alleged negotiations with the Likud.

The Joint (Jewish-Arab) List yesterday reiterated its position objecting to the Likud's getting any foothold in the Histadrut. Spokesman Adam Keller said the list regards itself as instrumental in forming a preventive bloc against the Likud and is prepared to consider forming a coalition with either Labor or Ramon.

The list has been approached by both Haberfeld and the Ramon list to probe the possibility of a coalition after the elections, but list head Binyamin Gonen said it would discuss that only after the election results are in.

Likud petitions court on Ramon pact with CRM

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THE Likud Histadrut list yesterday asked Tel Aviv District Court to order MK Haim Ramon to reveal the details of his agreements with the Citizens Rights Movement, Mapam, and Shas.

The Likud claimed there is suspicion that the agreements include financial deals and promises pertaining to appointments.

The petition said that the Supreme Court has ruled that lists must reveal political and financial agreements made prior to elections. Shas leaders, it noted, have stated that the reason they joined Ramon is that he would keep his promises. This indicates that promises and deals have been made, Likud sources said, and the question is, how much money and what positions has he promised.

The leaders of the Ramon-Meretz list refused yesterday to reveal the terms of the agreement with Shas. Meretz sources admitted there is still no signed agreement, but said that, at any rate, it is not for publication.

The sources said that there are two agreements: a signed agreement between Ramon and Meretz, which is not for publication, and an as yet unsigned agreement between Ramon-Meretz and Shas. The sources insisted that the

agreement with Shas would be signed by last night, adding "no body knows what's in it, because it hasn't been signed yet."

Ramon commented that his list would be willing to present all the agreements and its budget, as long as all the other lists do the same. The budget, he said, is about NIS 13-NIS 14 million, much lower than Labor's or the Likud's, which are estimated at NIS 40-NIS 50 each.

Labor and Likud sources wondered yesterday how much of the NIS 1 million the Ramon-Meretz list has allocated to Shas's *Yom Leyom*, as part of the agreement with Shas, would end up in the pocket of Shas leader MK Aryeh Deri. Deri is the newspaper's council president. They noted that according to Deri's report of additional income (outside his wages as an MK) for 1993, he received NIS 36,000 from *Yom Leyom* for "car (NIS 3,000 a month) and office expenses (NIS 20,000)." *Item adds:*

Last night 15 leading Sephardi rabbis and yeshiva heads signed a manifesto opposing a joint Meretz-Shas list, on the grounds it would violate a rabbinical ruling against a religious party joining with the left.

75-year-old passenger killed in crash

A WOMAN was killed and three people were seriously injured in a head-on collision at the northern entrance to Yavne yesterday.

The accident occurred when a car, driven by a 53-year-old wom-

an from Ashdod, swerved into the oncoming lane. Her passenger, a 75-year-old woman, was killed and she was seriously injured, as was the driver of the other car, a 22-year-old Yavne man. (Irim)



Reuma Weizman, wife of President Ezer Weizman, shakes hands with one of the volunteers who will be participating in this year's 'Month of the Child,' at a ceremony at the President's Residence launching the annual fund-raising campaign. (Yossi Cohen/Scoop 80)

Social workers begin talks with Treasury to end strike

SASHA SADAN

THE Association of Social Workers last night met with the Treasury's assistant wage director, Yuval Raklevsky, and began negotiations on a proposed wage increase in an attempt to end their 16-day strike.

Earlier in the day the social workers met with other Treasury officials and their major employer, the Union of Local Authorities, and discussed their work schedule.

About 300 of the 9,000 striking social workers demonstrated in Tel Aviv outside Labor Party headquarters.

The union said the Treasury is offering a 19.2% wage increase over the next four years. In return, the union must commit itself not to hold sanctions over wages.

After their strike last year, social workers said they had initiated

an accord that left far too many details open, such as just how much would be paid to each grade and when. Burned by that experience, the union has resisted appeals to stop the strike until the wage issue is resolved.

The social workers said that the seemingly handsome increase of 19.2% works out in real terms to a 10% wage rise spread over four years, which they reject as "totally unacceptable."

Haberfeld apologizes for calling Treasury officials names

MICHAEL YUDELMAN and JOSE ROSENFELD

HISTADRUT Secretary-General Haim Haberfeld yesterday apologized for calling Treasury officials names on Wednesday, stressing that he had been referring only to two or three senior officials who are serving as "a fifth column" in the Treasury.

Haberfeld blasted top Treasury officials for pressuring the Histadrut pension funds to invest their money in the stock market. The Histadrut leadership opposes this step, which it says would endanger the pensions of hundreds of thousands of workers.

On a tour in the north of the country Wednesday, Haberfeld called these officials "morons," "petty bureaucrats," and "mental

cases." However, when he realized that his statements were taken to be addressed against all Treasury workers, he issued a letter of apology.

"There are two or three senior officials who serve as a fifth column in the finance minister's bureau," he said. "They are still tied by their umbilical cord to [former Likud Finance Minister Yitzhak] Moda'i, and are committed to the liberal economic principles of each person to his fate."

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat defended the professionalism and integrity of his ministry's civil servants. Shohat characterized Haberfeld's words as awful and unrestrained, showing that he is

being swept away by the turmoil of the elections.

Shohat said that he stands behind the Treasury's junior and senior officials, who watch over the interests of the economy in a professional manner.

Treasury Director-General Aharon Fogel said sarcastically that such criticism coming from a man of such stature, especially with his understanding of health and Kupat Holim, is taken as a compliment.

Fogel noted that regarding pension reform, Haberfeld has no notion what is happening with the government's policy and that he is trying to get votes based on a non-existent issue.

Four bank robbers arrested after shoot-out with police

RAINE MARCUS

FOUR armed men who stole NIS 40,000 from a Ramat Aviv branch of Discount Bank were caught just five minutes later after a shoot-out with police.

The robbery occurred at around 4 p.m. when three masked men, armed with pistols, entered the bank and threatened to open fire if they were not given money. One kicked the deputy manager in the face; he was taken later to Ichilov Hospital.

After grabbing NIS 40,000, the robbers escaped in a stolen car

driven by the fourth man, but soon changed to their own car. A few minutes later Dan district detectives gave chase, firing shots and wounding one of the men. After the detectives' car collided with the robbers' vehicle at the entrance to the Ayalon highway, police arrested the four, seizing pistols and recovering the money.

Two robbers, one suffering from a gunshot wound and the other from light wounds caused by the car accident, were taken to hospital.

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Arab local councils to strike today

THE 53 Arab local authorities are to begin a strike this morning to protest the lack of a solution to their continuing financial crisis.

According to the leadership of their coordinating committee, the Arab councils have an accumulated joint deficit of some NIS 280 million, and it has been growing over the last several years. Thus, the councils are unable to provide full services to residents, and workers in several councils have gone unpaid for months.

The strike will bring all council services to a halt.

According to Hussein Suleiman, head of the Mash'had council in the Nazareth area, as of Tuesday the educational system in the Arab community will also strike for one day, to demonstrate solidarity, keeping some 300,000 pupils out of class.

Arab citizens will also be asked to stay home from work on Tuesday.

According to Suleiman, Treasury and Interior Ministry officials, at a recent meeting with Arab council heads, summarily rejected a request that one-third of the deficit be covered immediately. (Irim)

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NEWS IN FOCUS

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1994

Palestinians are tripping over the next step

Residents of Gaza and Jericho are apprehensive after the signing of the accord because they don't know who will be in charge of what, Jon Immanuel reports

PALESTINIANS were suffering from a kind of morning-after anxiety even before Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin signed the Cairo agreement on Wednesday.

Apart from knowing that 1,500 policemen were to take over key positions in the Palestine National Authority, few other matters seemed settled.

The names of senior security officials Abdul-Razek Majadeh, Nasser Yusef, Mohammed Dahlan, Jibril Rajoub and Ziad Arif are known, but no one knows for sure who will control most of the other top jobs.

Eyad Sarraj, a psychiatrist in charge of the Palestinian Mental Health Center in Gaza, predicted that there will be less excitement than there had been during the Madrid conference or even the Oslo agreement.

"People are apprehensive too. They don't know what they are heading toward. They don't know if they will work [have jobs]."

Who will run the schools, supply medicines to hospitals and collect the garbage? Will there be income tax? More basic still, does anyone know where the government will operate from?

The answers to those questions have been postponed by up to four weeks, at Yasser Arafat's request on Wednesday.

"We are anxious to know more from our leadership," said Riyadh Khoudary, president of Al Azhar University in Gaza City. If anyone knows, he should. Khoudary served as head of the Palestinian team to the multilateral talks on water in Oman and is the Gaza head of the technical committees designated to learn everything there is to know about the administration of the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

Palestinian administrators blame the Civil Administration for not giving them the information they needed to function.

"There are issues which we have to discuss with our Israeli counterparts. But they have told

us they are not willing to do so until the peace treaty is signed," said Dr. Rafik Hussein, who together with another physician in Gaza, Riyad Zanoun, is joint director of the Palestinian council on health.

Maj. Elise Shazar, spokeswoman of the Civil Administration, says the Palestinians are to blame.

"We cannot have contacts just because someone says he is in charge. We deliver information at the request of our negotiating partners. What is not officially coordinated by the delegation is not accepted. There will be no additional channels of communication."

Shazar's statements receive indirect support from Ghassan Khatib, a former negotiator who came out against the Cairo agreement.

"The technical committees were not given proper attention from the Palestinian leadership, and the link was not smooth."

BEFORE ISRAEL signed the agreement with the PLO on September 13, the contacts with the Civil Administration were minimal, administration sources say. The PLO had an interest in showing that without its full participation, nothing moved. Now the reasons appear to be connected only to competition inside the Palestinian camp.

The extent of the tension between local Palestinians and outside Palestinians who will make up half of the Palestinian Interim Self-Governing Authority and police force may well increase. But, Khatib says, Arafat has beaten down opponents by winning US and Israeli support in return for concessions.

Dr. Rafik Hussein was appointed by Dr. Fathi Arafat, brother of the PLO chief, who is expected to be health minister in the Palestinian authority. But even Arafat's brother had no delegating authority.

The chief negotiating partner and channel for PLO instructions was Nabil Sha'ath, and the only



Despite an upbeat atmosphere on the streets of Gaza, many questions concerning the residents' everyday lives still need to be addressed. (Brian Hendler)

person he authorized to meet with the Civil Administration was his son Ali, who examined its computer system last week. This intensely annoyed the local technical committees, whose members felt they had been bypassed.

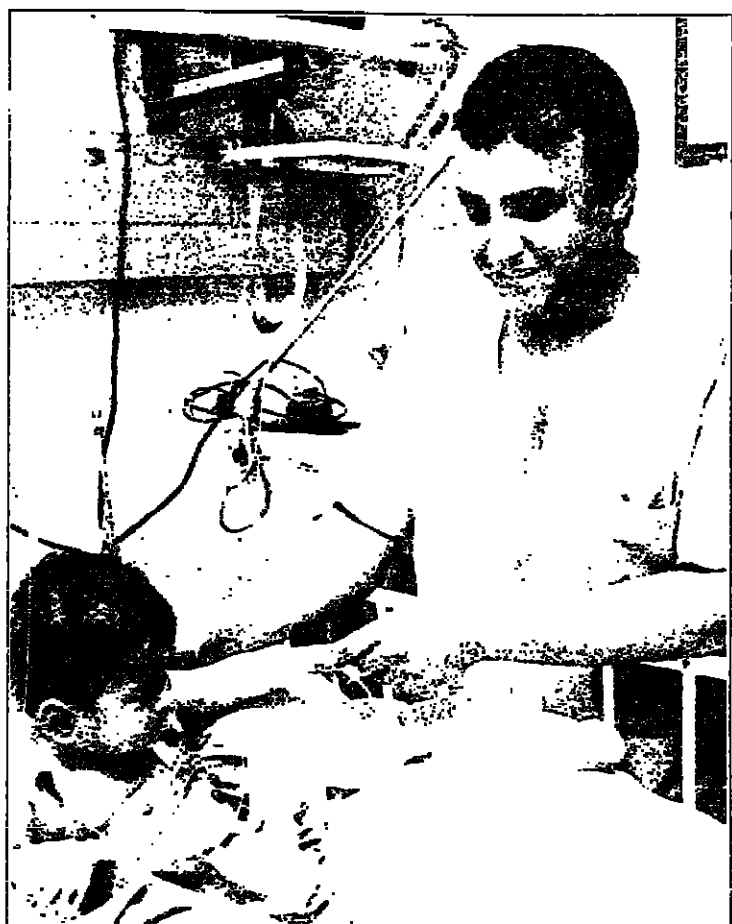
But, says Hussein, whose days are filled by meetings with poten-

tial foreign donors, the Palestinians can survive this lack of cooperation with the Israelis. After all, 14,000 of the 14,500 Civil Administration employees are local Palestinians and most of them are likely to remain at their jobs for the time being.

Palestinian doctors ran the hos-

pitals and the Israelis budgeted supplies, using Palestinian tax money. No one doubts Palestinians can also budget, and funds will not be lacking, at least in the short term, Hussein says.

For instance, Jericho's 50-bed hospital will be totally renovated with Japanese and British help, Hussein says, and similar pledges have been made concerning Gaza's hospitals. Hussein adds that foreign ministry director-general Yohanan Bein promised 100 days of medicine and supplies and a year's worth of vaccines to all government hospitals in Jericho and the Gaza Strip.



The Foreign Ministry will supply government hospitals in the autonomous areas, like Gaza's Shifa (above), with medicine for 100 days, according to Dr. Rafik Hussein. (Brian Hendler)

The problems which require coordination with Israel concern referring patients from Gaza and Jericho to hospitals outside the area of autonomy or to Israel, Hussein says.

Different departments have different transition problems. Education is considered simple, since Palestinians ran their own schools and the Civil Administration's education department head was an Arab, usually a Druse officer. Housing is a top priority, politically and economically, to relieve congestion in refugee camps and to provide mass employment.

Municipal affairs in Gaza City are a political minefield. They are to be run by Mansour Shawah, a PLO appointee opposed by Hamas and many others who demand elections, according to Ibrahim Yazuri, an Islamic notable linked to Hamas.

The major issue will be taxation, because this will be the fuel for every department and will dictate how much of the Palestinian economy will depend on foreign aid.

Palestinians were not involved in tax collection under Israeli rule, and many Palestinians say that what they considered overtaxation by the Israelis contributed to the intifada. Many Palestinians are hoping for a tax holiday for a year or two.

Ahmed Korei (Abu Alla), who conducted the economic talks in Paris, says "there will be no no tax holiday." The only tax so far is a value-added tax of 15 percent to appease Israel's demand for parity and Israel's reported agreement to refund 75 percent of income tax charged to Palestinian workers in Israel.

"The PLO intention is to resume tax collection immediately, once the computer software is transferred, as it must be according to the Cairo agreement," said Mohammed Shteyeh, an economist working for PECDAR, the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Rehabilitation.

The computer software is vital not only for assessing the tax liability of every Palestinian, but also for estimating the population, without which elections and economic development will be hampered. Palestinian estimates of 2.3 million are 20 percent higher than Israeli estimates.

A powerful incentive to development will be the World Bank's agreement to pass along \$1.2 billion for the development of infrastructure and utilities, on condition that the Palestinian authority establishes an organized mechanism to accountability. Dozens of planned projects from desalination plants to TV stations depend on these funds.

Names are the guessing game in Gaza and Jericho

SOME PLO names that have recently become prominent in connection with Palestinian rule in Gaza are:

- Mohammed Dahlan, 33, deported as a Gaza intifada activist in 1986 and negotiator in security talks. He is expected to be Gaza's security coordinator.
- Jibril Rajoub, 40, was deported as a Hebron intifada activist. He is expected to be Jericho security chief.
- Ziad Arif is expected to be Gaza's police chief and a general in the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA).

- Nasser Yusef is overall security chief in Gaza and Jericho and a general in the Palestine Liberation Army.
- Soufian Abu-Zayde, a senior member of the Fatah Higher Council in Gaza and currently PLO spokesman, is likely to be the coordinator with Israeli authorities.
- Diab Ellouh, Fatah media coordinator who served eight years in prison for security offenses, was released during the 1985 prisoner exchange.
- Rashid Abu Shabak, 38, was founder of the Black Panthers; he fled in 1989. Abu Shabak returned last month and is expected to be coordinator between the police and Israelis.
- Abdul-Razek Majadeh, 63, a general in the PLA, fled Gaza in 1987.
- Dr. Fathi Arafat, Arafat's brother and head of the Palestinian Red Crescent, is expected to head the health department.
- Yasser Abed-Rabbo, PLO information chief, heads FIDA, a small socialist supporter of Fatah.
- Zakaria Al-Agha, head of Fatah Higher Council in Gaza, may become housing chief.

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Security after Gaza-Jericho

Israel threw caution to the winds when it signed an agreement that doesn't include real guarantees by the PLO, Dore Gold writes

THE basic preconditions for the future Israel-PLO partnership were underlined by Prime Minister Rabin during the Cairo signing ceremony of the Gaza-Jericho implementation agreement.

"Without Israelis being assured security and the Palestinians being given new hope, the purpose of the agreement will not be obtained," he said. Security is clearly at the heart of the Rabin view of the Gaza-Jericho accord. But has he negotiated an agreement that has any chance of meeting his own expectations?

Evaluating the security arrangements created by this new agreement is far more complicated than any previous Israeli-Arab treaty. Generally, the adequacy of security arrangements are measured by the way they provide for Israel's defense in the event that the agreement breaks down. Were a hostile regime to rise to power in Egypt and decide to dispatch seven divisions toward Israel, the Sinai security arrangements that were put in place in 1982 would prove their value if they gave Israel the ability to adequately take counteractions in sufficient time.

In contrast, the Gaza-Jericho security arrangements are not designed to give Israel a back-up security system, should the agreement fail. The lengthy security understandings reached in Cairo will work only if there is a high degree of Israeli-Palestinian cooperation. Israel does not have the right of "hot pursuit" against terrorists, past a limited number of meters from designated roads. Instead, Israel must turn to the Palestinian police to seize terrorist suspects.

In many cases, Israel has no legal jurisdiction for trying Palestinians suspected of cross-border attacks; they must be turned over to the Palestinian judiciary for trial. The deterrence of terrorism will be largely dependent on how the Palestinian court system responds to terrorist suspects that Israel apprehends.

Israeli dependence on the Palestinians for cooperation will be particularly acute, since the planned security fence for enclosing the Gaza Strip is not expected to be ready for a year and a half.

The original Camp David Accords envisioned the creation of a strong "local" police force that would be responsible for public order, while internal security and counter-terrorism would stay in the hands of Israel. The Oslo accord of last September set the stage for the current agreement, when it dropped both the term "local" and the idea of limited Palestinian police powers.

This change meant that now Israel will be dependent on building an effective system of cooperative security with the Palestinians, instead of having an option of unilateral security, as in the past.

Will cooperative security work? Much will depend on how the Palestinians decide to advance their claims in the rest of the West Bank.

Theoretically, the underlying assumption of the original Oslo accord was that the PLO had a basic incentive to cooperate with Israel to prevent terrorist attacks during this first phase, in order to obtain Israeli agreement to the further phases of Palestinian self-rule.

But there are already early indications that reality will not follow this precise logic. The Palestinians have already made it clear that they cannot assume responsibility for anything that happens outside of Gaza and Jericho. Late last month, Suhiyan Abu-Zayda, one of the leaders of Fatah in Gaza, was cited, in *Ma'ariv*, as having announced at the Islamic University in Gaza: "whoever thinks that the Palestinian police will try to prevent attacks outside of the borders of the autonomy is making a bitter mistake."

Additionally, reports of a growing set of local understandings between Fatah and Hamas have undercut earlier Israeli ideas that Arafat's men would fight Palestinian fundamentalists, like the South Lebanese Army battles the Hizbullah.

Cooperative security requires a virtual alliance between the PLO and Israel; but the PLO will clearly prefer to coordinate closely with Hamas, if that is the necessary means for averting civil war. The latter is a far greater threat to Fatah than Israel re-invading the Gaza Strip.

Diplomatic subtleties will also affect the PLO's calculations about how security will be kept. The original Oslo agreement left three months between the implementation of Gaza-Jericho and Palestinian elections for a self-rule council in the rest of the West Bank. In the meantime, it proposed early empowerment of the Palestinians in five limited fields. While this was hardly an adequate test period for the Gaza-Jericho experiment, it at least broke down the implementation of Palestinian self-rule into two distinct stages.

Since Oslo, important changes have occurred. First, after the Hebron massacre, Israel undertook to expand early-empowerment beyond the five initial fields of self-rule; this appeared in the Cairo agreement that created the international presence in Hebron. Second, with the just-signed Gaza-Jericho accord, Israel is about to begin early-empowerment discussions almost immediately. Thus, the Palestinians could obtain broadened self-rule in the West Bank without having to pass the test of Gaza-Jericho.

Arafat would prefer the expansion of his authority this way, so that he can avoid having to confront Hamas and local Fatah activists at the ballot box. But by giving the Palestinians expanded powers up front, without adequate phasing, the PLO will lose its incentive to prove itself to the Israeli public, especially in the sensitive security field.

Moreover, the fact that the Gaza-Jericho negotiations continued, despite PLO violations of Oslo, has led Arafat to understand that he faces no penalties when he doesn't live up to his side of agreements - e.g. repealing the PLO Charter.

The Rabin government left the Gaza Strip first, because the public overwhelmingly felt that continuing presence there was intolerable. This will be an important lesson for the Palestinians in the rest of the West Bank. In this sense Israel's security situation, after Gaza-Jericho, will largely depend on whether the Palestinians conclude that self-rule is something that Israel grants or is ultimately achieved only after it is seized.



Foot patrols in the Gaza Strip, like this one outside Ganei Tal's greenhouses, are part of the IDF's new approach to security in the area. (Sarit Uziel)

The cleanup after the party

Israeli officials say they want 'early empowerment' for Palestinians if Arafat can control terrorism from the Gaza Strip and Jericho, Steve Rodan reports

NOW that the party in Cairo is over, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and his government are getting ready to roll up their sleeves and start the next stage of negotiations with the PLO.

The term Gaza/Jericho First, the subject of more than seven months of talks, is passe. The new buzzword is "early empowerment."

Senior officials say the government is presenting the PLO with a choice: Use Gaza or Jericho as a base for terror, and Israel halts its withdrawal. The officials say at least two ministers, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid and Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein, have conveyed this to the Palestinians.

Rabin, officials say, has reported the ultimatum to the US and Russia - the cosponsors of the Middle East peace talks - as well as to the European Union.

"Many in the cabinet are scared of what will happen in the territories," Sarid said. "This is a period of testing, and we hope it will pass quickly."

At the same time, Israel is telling Arafat that if he succeeds in quelling terrorism from Gaza and Jericho, the process will be accelerated. The IDF withdrawal from the rest of the territories, officials say, would be negotiated even as Rabin increases his efforts to reach a settlement with Syria.

"We will immediately go for early empowerment," Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin said. "We will go to Washington to speak about early elections. I do not believe that we should only deal with one channel at a time."

As Rabin and most of his key ministers see it, the Palestinians will have complete civil authority in the rest of Judea and Samaria. The exceptions will be responsibility for military control and foreign affairs.

Cabinet sources say Rabin and his key ministers, including Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Sarid, are prepared to quickly allow the PLO to expand its authority.

"They will have everything involved in self-rule," a senior minister said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "Internal security will be a matter of cooperation between us and the Palestinians. Defense of borders will be maintained by us."

The Declaration of Principles signed between Israel and the PLO on September 13 limits the Palestinians to five spheres of authority: education and culture, health, social welfare, taxation and tourism. These responsibilities are in addition to the creation of a police force.

But many government officials and army commanders say this partial transfer of authority is not feasible. Some say maintaining the letter of the DOP will result in an unworkable mixture of responsibilities, with Palestinian and Israeli civil servants arguing over who handles what decision in the territories.

MILITARY SOURCES predict the IDF will press to grant Palestinians all civilian powers in the area. In the end, one minister says, the government will be glad to oblige.

"We probably would just say to them, take it all and just give us security," the minister said.

The bigger problem, however, is control of land, or how to delineate the new sections of Palestinian authority. The areas of Jewish settlements in Gaza are relatively compact, unlike in Judea and Samaria, where the Jewish communities are spread out.

The question for the next stage of talks is whether Palestinian self-rule is limited to Arab communities in Judea and Samaria or if it includes all the territory except for Jewish settlements. The Palestinians make it clear they want the latter, something senior defense

sources oppose. The sources say the clash of authorities will make it impossible to maintain order.

Another potential snag is that the DOP requires that the Palestinians hold elections for a self-rule council. Israeli and Palestinian analysts, pointing to the stiff competition from Hamas and other opponents of the accord with Israel, doubt whether the PLO will agree to risk being voted out of power.

As a result, security sources say that unless there is a drastic change in attitude by the government, the Israeli-PLO negotiations will be deadlocked. Joseph Alpher, director of Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, agrees.

"All of this together," Alpher writes in an analysis for the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, a private think tank, "seems to point to the likelihood of a withdrawal from Gaza and then a tumultuous freeze or, more correctly, an inability to proceed within the next year or so on the West Bank because of the basic contradiction between the existence of the settlements and the notion of turning over jurisdiction over territory."

It's a dilemma Rabin plans to address soon. Some of his aides say the prime minister will attempt to regroup settlements in Judea and Samaria into blocs such as those in Gaza. Isolated Jewish communities would be evacuated and their residents brought to other sites.

Aides expect the first target of this policy will be the Jewish community in Hebron, about 450 people living in three neighborhoods in the predominately Moslem city.

PEACE WATCH, a nonpartisan group, says in a report to be issued

next week that despite Arafat's pledge to stop terrorism, his Fatah wing has carried out at least 36 attacks, killing six and injuring 24. The group quoted security sources as saying that the suicide car-bomber in Afula on April 6, Raid Zakaria, was a Fatah member. Eight people were killed and 44 were injured in that attack.

"The issue of how the PLO relates to terror by Palestinian groups outside of Fatah takes on added importance with a Fatah-led police force, shouldered with the responsibility of preventing terror attacks against Israeli targets, about to take control in Gaza and Jericho," the Peace Watch report says.

Intelligence sources expect Arafat to try his best to prevent areas under his control from being used as terror bases. Despite its opposition to negotiations with Israel, Hamas will participate in the self-rule authority in an effort to maintain influence, the sources say.

"Arafat will do whatever he can so that not even a quarter of a Katyusha will fall on Ashkelon," said Likud MK Eliahu Ben-Elissar, the former chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee and former Mossad official.

"He is not stupid. He probably would even be prepared to execute somebody he caught committing such an act."

At the same time, the sources, who include officials in the police, army and security services, assess that terrorism will increase in Judea and Samaria as well as inside Israel. Arafat will not be held responsible in areas outside his control.

Arafat could be as careless about his followers as he was when he virtually ruled south Lebanon in the 1970s. Even the most dovish of ministers are unsure whether

Arafat will impose discipline or control his erratic behavior. Ministers such as Sarid and Shulamit Aloni, who accompanied Rabin to Cairo, appeared embarrassed as the PLO chief refused to sign the Gaza/Jericho First accord.

Over the past four months, these ministers have watched the people they hailed as the hope of Palestinian democracy - San'at Nasseibeh, Hanan Ashrawi, Faisal Husseini and Elias Freij - fade from center stage.

They have been replaced by hardened ex-prisoners who made their mark during the Palestinian uprising, people like Jibril Rajoub, convicted of participating in 10 terror attacks in the late 1960s and 20 years later a major Fatah figure in the intifada.

Most ministers - who have discussed their views both publicly and privately - say they do not oppose a Palestinian state if they are convinced that Israeli security will be maintained. Finance Minister Avraham Shohat confirmed in a recent interview.

Most ministers would like the state to enter a confederation with Jordan. Beilin, believing that Arafat will eventually control such a country, advocates a mini-state in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

It is not clear whether the PLO will want to discuss borders first. Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsor believes that the PLO, already confident that a state is assured, will want to discuss the future of Jerusalem.

Regardless, cabinet sources say the continuation of the peace process will not be marked by constant disagreements between Peres and Rabin. Neither will change, they say; Peres will continue to push for quicker action, and Rabin will continue to hesitate.

On Monday, Rabin voiced what his colleagues say is his new thinking on the future of the Israeli-Arab conflict.

"I want the establishment of a separate Palestinian entity," Rabin told the Labor Party Knesset caucus. "I don't want them in the State of Israel. Ruling a foreign nation has corrupted us."

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Political tide swamps Jews in Gaza

Residents of Gush Katif prayed this week for the cancellation of the 'evil decree' that links their destiny with the PLO, Herb Keinon reports

SOME 1,500 residents of Gush Katif gathered in the central square in Neveh Dekalim on Wednesday and prayed for God to "cancel the evil decree" as Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO chief Yasser Arafat signed the Gaza/Jericho First accord.

That the residents chose the recitation of Psalms, fasting and the blowing of the shofar to protest the agreement reflected the religious mind-set of the community.

It also demonstrated the realization that everything else they tried - the protests, the public relations gimmicks, the meetings with politicians - had failed.

"I'm now waiting for a miracle," said 24-year-old Zmira Shlezinger, a resident and teacher in Neveh Dekalim. "I don't know what else to do."

The 5,000 residents of the 13 settlements in Gush Katif were unable to stem the political tide. Conversations with a number of Neveh Dekalim residents this week revealed that some have not come to terms with the new reality.

Dov Henoch, the director of a high-tech industrial park in the settlement, still talks about building another settlement, another factory, another neighborhood. It's almost as if in his mind nothing has changed, that the PLO is not about to take over Gaza.

"The situation is going to get difficult again, but our nation will learn, although only the hard way," said Henoch, the father of six. "We will have no choice but to go back in there with tanks and show the Arabs the door."

Eight months ago, soon after Rabin and Arafat shook hands in Washington, settlers in Gush Katif spoke of a hope that the agree-

ment would fall apart somewhere along the road to implementation. Now with the agreement signed, it is more difficult to define the immediate practical political hopes of the residents.

Phyllis Weintraub is an entomologist who moved to Gush Katif eight months ago from Baltimore.

"I'm not sure what to hope for now," she said. "I'm afraid there are going to be problems with a lot of bloodshed. I just hope we don't make the same mistake we made in 1967. We should have kicked the Arabs out then."

Others, like Neveh Dekalim resident Yisrael Lillental, hope the agreement works so "I will be able to go into Gaza, and they will be able to come to Neveh Dekalim." But he said he has no illusions.

"This isn't going to happen. We are not yet in the days when the lion can lie down with the lamb."

GUSH KATIF has changed a great deal since The Handshake.

The most obvious physical changes are apparent on the road into the area from Kibbutz Kissufim. On Tuesday, workmen were busy erecting floodlights near an orchard along the road, and trucks were bringing in concrete slabs to place in or near the numerous IDF outposts that have sprung up along the route.

In the past, the view from the road was a pastoral scene of sand, Beduin and sky. Added to this now are IDF tents behind mounds of dirt, soldiers standing guard and additional roadblocks.

For Lillental, the increased presence of the soldiers is a boon for business. He runs a baguette and pastry shop in Neveh Dekalim, and on Tuesday was doing a



It would appear to be business - and play - as usual for the 5,000 Jewish residents in Gush Katif, but they are nervous about the future. (Sarit Uziely)

brisk business selling croissants, cigarettes and drinks to the soldiers.

"This is the only happy thing to come of the agreement," he said.

The soldiers, Lillental said, complain about having to go to Gush Katif just to protect a few thousand settlers. "But in the '50s, I used to lie in ambush near Yad Mordechai to keep infiltrators out. It's the same thing."

Beyond the increased army presence - which includes foot patrols near greenhouses in the settlements that are part of the new deployment in the area - the flow of life in the settlements has not changed drastically. Farmers continue to work in their greenhouses, children play freely in the settlements and people continue to travel the roads.

But the accords have cast a pall of uncertainty over the area. Residents of the Gush this week were anxious for practical directives about which roads will be patrolled exclusively by Palestinians, and which jointly by Palestinians and Israelis.

They don't yet know what they are supposed to do if stopped by a Palestinian policeman, or whether they will need a special pass to travel to and from the Gush.

"Everything is unclear," Lillental said. "Nobody knows yet what will be. But what are we going to

do? Life has to go on. You learn to live with uncertainties."

ALTHOUGH THE rhythm of life may continue as usual, the fears of the residents are much deeper than they were last year. The stabbing of Sigal Sofer in Neveh Dekalim two weeks ago and the shooting from a building in Khan Yunis of four soldiers patrolling Ganei Tal this week have increased the fears.

"I'm going to be more scared now than I was in the past," said Shlezinger, whose husband escaped uninjured in an attack on the Kissufim Road, where 32 bullets were pumped into the car in which he was traveling.

"This reminded me that there is a Judge sitting up there who watches over what happens down below. This doesn't mean that nothing bad will happen, but rather that events are not a matter of chance."

Shlezinger said that since the attack on Sofer, more people in the settlement are carrying guns.

"People are less apathetic," she said. "They look over their shoulders when they walk, they are taking a more responsible approach. Logic dictates that if there are problems when the IDF is in control, when the IDF leaves there will be more problems. At least people here realize this."



Gazans hope for good fences, good neighbors

THE charmless back streets of Gaza City looked, on the day of the Cairo signing, like an out-of-focus black-and-white film that an ambitious director was hoping to animate with bright color and purposeful movement.

Traffic still included donkey-drawn carts and many stores had their shutters closed - not because of a strike, a local man said, but because there was no economic activity to warrant their opening. Dirt and sand covered the streets and even the graffiti disfiguring every wall and fence were no longer fresh.

Neglect was the Prince of Gaza, but his consort, Despair, seemed to be preparing to go off on holiday.

"We need peace," said Mohammed, a guard at PLO headquarters. "We need air. We need to breathe. We've lost our youth. I'm 30. In 10 years it's all over for me. I haven't been anywhere. With goodwill on the part of your people, there will be peace."

And what about Hamas? "Everything will change once there's peace," said Mohammed, who had been barred from entering Israel even before the recent closure, for reasons he declined to discuss.

"All these years that we were locked in Gaza we all hung out

Under the dust of Gaza City is a glimmer of hope for a new history, Abraham Rabinovich reports

together doing nothing. People asked 'How am I different from the next fellow?' and some joined Hamas. I'm sure that once there are opportunities people will drop that."

Upstairs, a young official looked up from a document he was writing in English and asked a passing *Jerusalem Post* reporter: "Do I write 'The PLO lives on' or 'Viva the PLO'?" Was *The Jerusalem Post* lending a hand to framing the new Palestinian Charter?

In an inner room, the local PLO leadership was watching the Cairo ceremony on television as Israeli television cameramen watched them. The leaders, fugitives past, looked comfortable in their suits and ties.

When Yasser Arafat signed the agreement, they broke into applause. From an adjoining room came the loud, flat reports of a pistol. Someone was firing, presumably on the window, in celebration.

A map on the wall showed the territories in a dominant gray and

the parts of Israel adjoining them in pale yellow. Everything seemed to be in its right place, but the mapmakers' art had somehow made the territories seem the more dominant of the two.

A FEW blocks away, a wholesale druggist who declined to give his name said he preferred to reserve judgment about the Cairo agreement. "I know the Jews from more than 50 years ago. From Jaffa. I don't trust them. Peace can be more dangerous than war if it makes you lower your guard and the other side knows all your secrets and takes advantage of you."

"I want true peace. If they want true peace they will release our prisoners and give us back all our lands that were captured in 1967. And the lands captured in 1948? The druggist laughed dismissively. "That's history."

Abed Kharba, who has worked in Israel since 1967 in agriculture and sanitation, said he believed the contacts between Gazans and Israelis over the past 27 years were

more important than a peace agreement. "A peace agreement is a piece of paper. Without love in your hearts there is no peace."

And did these contacts make for love? What of the knifings? "In 60 to 70 percent of cases, these contacts make for warm relations - with employers, with the population in general."

What did he think of Arafat? "I hope he can live up to his task. He's a nice man. He has a golden heart but he needs help from Israel in order to overcome his opposition. He can't do it alone. There are plenty of smart people on both sides, but you have to know how to behave. You can't just say 'I'm standing on what I want.'"

At Shifa Hospital, the biggest in Gaza, Dr. Majed Awadallah said he had spent two years studying in Israeli hospitals and believed the two peoples will coexist to their mutual benefit. "What the politicians are doing is agreeing to what the people have already agreed to. It is so simple. I think we may need a year's cooling off period

before we start visiting each other freely but we can and must live together."

AN ISRAELI wandering on foot alone through Gaza this week, something he had not dared do in years, felt safe enough as long as he was circumspect. The residents' attention seemed to be shifting inward. Even the occasional army vehicle appeared to have acquired semi-invisibility as the Israeli presence receded.

A local man who agreed to drive a visitor along a back road to the Erez checkpoint turned his head to follow a battered car moving fast in the opposite direction. "Mevukashim (wanted men)," he said. "I don't think they'll be sleeping in their own beds tonight yet."

On second look, there seemed to be some kind of urban shape after all beneath the dusty skin of Gaza - here and there a derelict space that was plainly designed as an imposing square, a twin-carriageway road that probably appeared as Boulevard on some Mandatory planner's map.

There were plainly sufficient energies in Gaza, not to mention building skills, to transform the city. Whether Yasser Arafat can first transform himself from stunt man to director remains to be seen.

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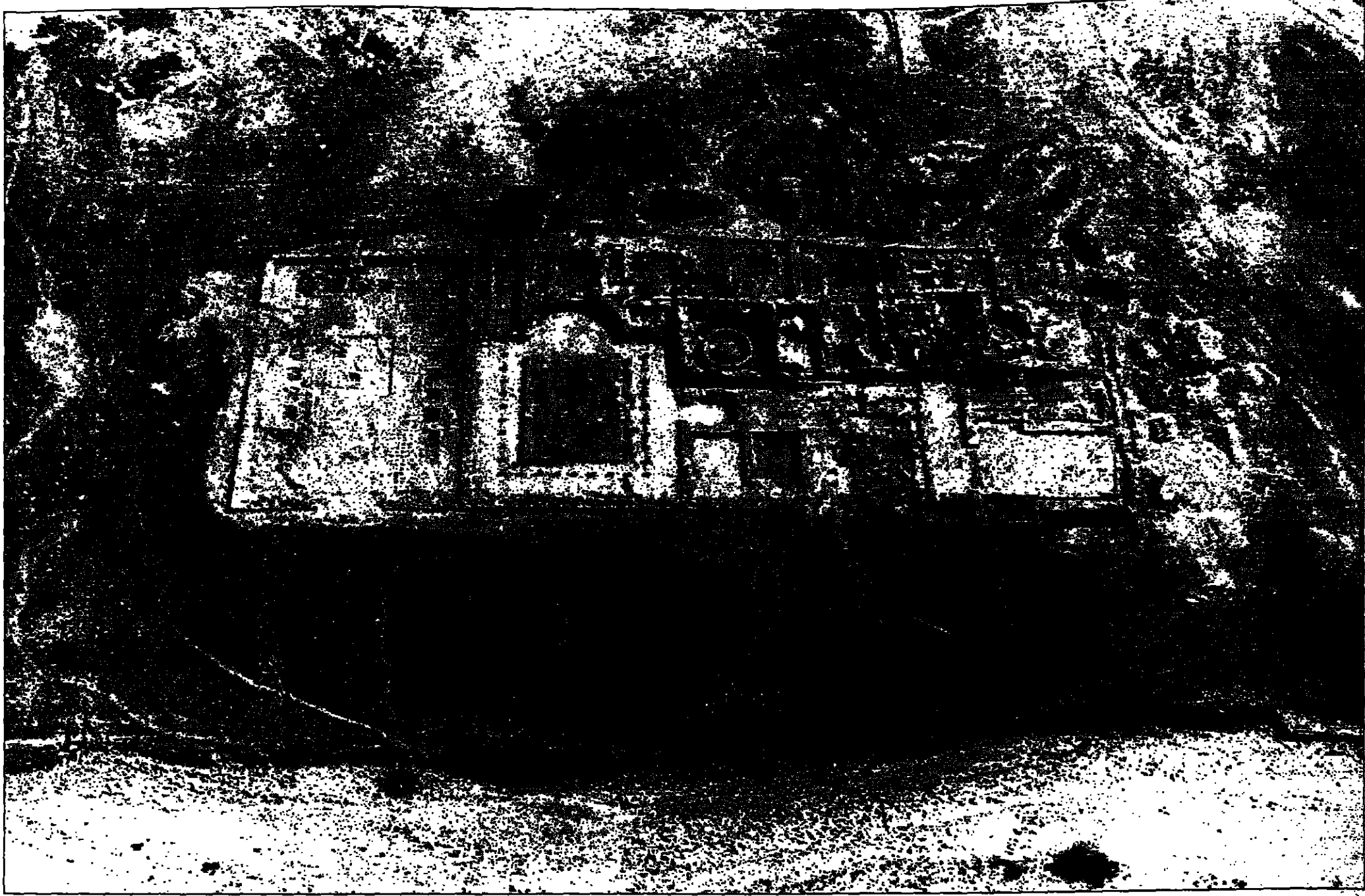
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Prof. Ehud Netzer (in file photo) must come to terms with the prospect of his eviction from the Jericho area, where he began excavating Herod's Winter Palaces in 1973.



(Zvi Radovici)

Jericho excavation: Possible victim of peace

GIVING up the two winter palaces and pleasure gardens where he has spent much of his professional life will make parting from Jericho more painful for Ehud Netzer than for most Israelis.

Prof. Netzer, a Hebrew University archaeologist, began excavating the Hasmonean and Herodian palaces on the bank of Wadi Kelt in Jericho in 1973 and returned subsequently for 16 more seasons. In the course of his digs he brought to light the elegance and luxury in which Jerusalem's kings lived over the course of some 150 years in their oasis retreats.

This week, Netzer tried to come to terms with the prospect of his eviction from Jericho and the possibility that the palaces might be endangered.

"Theoretically, it could all be destroyed if there is no organized body that will take responsibility," he said this week. "But it must be said that the Jordanians did take care of the archaeological sites in the area, like Qumran, before 1967."

From his body language, Netzer appeared to be trying, without complete success, to reassure himself that antiquities robbers or vandals would be prevented from plundering the remains he had exposed. His concern over Jericho reflected his concern about the peace process. "Nobody knows what will happen," he says.

Whatever had been agreed upon in Cairo between Israel and the PLO regarding archeology in the autonomous areas—preservation of sites, ownership of finds

Autonomy may end an archeologist's 21-year involvement with Jericho's ancient Jewish sites, Abraham Rabinovich reports

and the possibility of Israeli archeologists working there in future—had not yet been passed on to the archeologists themselves, he said.

As of midweek, he was still not certain that the site would fall under Palestinian jurisdiction. It was reported to be just on the edge of the autonomous area, but reports that Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin would likely concede to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat "a few more kilometers" at their meeting in Cairo made the chances of the

site remaining in Israeli hands appear less likely. If it becomes part of the autonomy, it will be the most important archeological site Israel is relinquishing at this stage.

"The site has the greatest concentration of pools in the ancient world," Netzer says. "Till today, nothing like it has been found." There are 10 pools at the palace complex, one of them measuring 90 by 40 meters. Another measuring 30 by 18 meters had been ringed by promenades and a shady

pavilion. It was in the latter pool that Aristobolus III, a Hasmonean high priest, was drowned, according to Josephus, at the instruction of Herod, who feared the young priest's popularity.

In the Hasmonean palace, Netzer found two apartments which he concluded were built in identical fashion by Queen Shlomzion for her two feuding sons, Hyrcanus II and Aristobolus II, to avoid any suggestion of favoritism.

It was probably during the reign of her husband, Alexander Yannai (103-76 BCE), that a palace was first built at Jericho, just 20 kilometers from Jerusalem, to take advantage of the mild winter climate. Aqueducts brought sufficient water from the rich springs of the area to permit not only the construction of pools but extensive plantations of date trees and balsam, from which perfume was produced.

Herod followed the Hasmoneans with the construction of an even more luxurious palace. Its reception hall, lined with wall paintings and paved with colored stone tiles and marble, measured 20 by 40 meters. The building contained an elaborate Roman bath with a hot room, a warm room, a cold room and a dressing room. There were also two spacious courtyards surrounded by arcades, as well as numerous rooms.

Netzer's best-case scenario is that the Palestinians will prove responsible trustees who will preserve archeological sites and publish archeological reports in

recognized scientific journals subject to critique by other scholars.

Because of the ongoing excavations over the past two decades, the palace complex has not been bestowed with a tourism infrastructure. There are not even any signs, although tourist buses frequently call. "Buses with Christian tourists come to the site and the guide tells them: 'This is the Jericho of Jesus,'" says Netzer. "These are the most tangible remains of the Second Temple period. The site has importance for Jews and Christians and for world culture. Also for local residents who would be able to find employment there."

Netzer is writing the official report of his excavations at Jericho, a project that will permanently link his name with the royal palaces regardless of what happens to the palaces themselves. Nevertheless, he wants to believe that he has not said his final farewell to the palace site whose excavation is not yet completed.

"I definitely hope to continue working there."

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BBC surpasses itself with spurious documentary

EYE ON THE MEDIA

DAVID BAR-ILAN

VIEWING Charles Glass narrating *The Forgotten Faithful* (April 20) on BBC-TV's *Everyman* series brings to mind a joke about a notoriously dishonest Washington politician. "How do you know when Mr. P. is not lying?" goes the jest. "When he rubs his nose, he is not lying; when he touches his forehead, he is not lying. When he opens his mouth, that's when he is lying."

On this "documentary," which describes the Christian Arab emigration from Israel and the territories as a consequence of the "intolerable life under Israeli occupation," Glass — a former hostage in Lebanon turned Arab propagandist — seems incapable of opening his mouth without uttering a falsehood.

The heroes of this documentary, as with all exemplars of the genre, are the Arab "victims" themselves, who with disarming sincerity tell the camera about the hell they live in.

That such Arab testimonies are still taken seriously is a little puzzling. After watching the parade of Arab witnesses in the Cave of the Patriarchs massacre hearing, in which all of them invented transparent fantasies and flagrantly contradicted what they had told human rights organizations and the police, one would expect a little reticence on the part of television producers.

But Glass neither questions his Arab "witnesses," nor tries to verify what is easily verifiable. And no Israeli is asked to comment on these stories of unspeakable Israeli brutality, many of which are manifestly absurd.

The common denominator in these testimonies is that invariably the tellers claim innocence of any

wrongdoing. Arabs who have actually participated in the thousands of incidents of intifada stone-throwing, petrol-bombing, grenade-tossing, knifing, shooting, mutilating and torching are simply not to be found. They are as rare as Germans who knew about the Holocaust.

Yet in Glass's opus the worst lies are told not by Arab "victims" but in Glass's own narration. Recited as if they are historic facts, they have the kind of authority no testimony can possess.

THE PROGRAM opens with Israeli soldiers dispersing Arab rioters with tear gas as Glass's voice intones, "since the conquest of 1967, violence, imprisonment and abuses by Israeli settlers (sic) have been the facts of life that Palestinians opposed, endured or escaped."

The camera then shifts to Christian Arabs praying, and Glass delivers the ludicrous fabrication Hanaan Ashrawi has used to great effect: "these are Eastern Arab Christians — Palestinians. They have lived in the Holy Land for 2,000 years." The temptation to react to this bit of idiocy with "funny, they don't look Jewish" is almost irresistible.

There were no Christian Arabs (or any other Arabs) in this country 2,000 years ago. (The first Arabs, all rather dedicated Moslems, invaded in the 7th century.) Jesus' followers 2,000 years ago were Jews like Jesus himself, but there is never a mention in Glass's narrative that Jesus was Jewish. (In today's trendy doublespeak he is "a Palestinian.")

Nor does Glass limit his efforts to rewriting religious history. He tells us of Aboud, a Christian village "whose lands were recently

confiscated by Israel despite the Israel-PLO pact." In fact, no privately owned land has been confiscated — in Aboud or anywhere else in the territories. Land determined to be state land — often after long and arduous court hearings — is the only land used by the Israeli government or the settlers.

OTHER CHARGES are even uglier. Arab Christians in Bethlehem live off the Christian tourist trade, Glass says, but all Christian pilgrims are forced to stay in Israeli hotels because the Israeli government has prohibited Arab hotel-building.

The truth is that there is no discrimination against Arab hotels, which in Jerusalem and Bethlehem enjoyed an unprecedented boom last year. In 1993 a million pilgrims and tourists visited Bethlehem, enriching its 10 Arab hotels (there are no Jewish hotels), 41 tourist shops, 55 factories for tourist products and 17 licensed local guides. Arab hotels have received special exemptions from purchase taxes for new furniture and equipment.

Glass also alleges that Israel ensures that the pilgrims' money does not go to Arabs by "rarely issuing licenses to Arab guides." The truth is again the precise opposite. The government's standards for guide licenses are extremely high, and Israelis have to pass rigorous exams to get them. But Arab guides have been awarded licenses without tests.

Another form of Israeli oppression, Glass says, is the imposition

of curfews, which keep tourists away. The fact is that business stoppages caused by curfews — virtually unknown in Bethlehem before the intifada — can be measured in hours over the duration of the uprising, while strikes forced by the PLO and Hamas have cost Bethlehem Christians hundreds of working days. Nor does it occur to Glass that tourists may be deterred more by the murder of a 60-year-old Christian pilgrim in Bethlehem by a Moslem fanatic than by rare Israeli curfews.

Gratuitously, Glass brings the massacre of Moslems in Hebron by Baruch Goldstein into the program. The obvious purpose is not only to bash Israel for the deed, but to imply that no worshippers are safe in Israel.

Two "Christian" examples are also shown: the bulldozing of a wall of a Greek Orthodox church, which "the Israelis claim did not have the proper license" (indeed, it was built illegally), and the story of the St. John's hospice, described as a takeover by fanatic Israeli settlers of a Christian holy site. The "hospice" was an abandoned, neglected hostel, a hangout for drug addicts and pushers which was bought and occupied legally and properly.

Why, then, are Christian Arabs leaving? The very same week the Glass program was aired, the Hebrew press reported that Christian Arabs in the territories had accused Fatah activists of harassing Franciscan nuns in the Aida refugee camp near Bethlehem.

They regularly invaded the convent, which contains a kinder-

garten and medical facilities for the camp, stone the nuns, vandalize graves, destroy equipment, break sculptures and paint graffiti. "We live under a reign of terror," said one of the nuns.

The harassment of Christian Arabs by Palestinian nationalists and Moslem fundamentalists has been constant for decades. It began, as did Christian emigration, before the Israelis won the territories in 1967, and has continued ever since. To attribute Christian emigration to Israeli persecution rather than to brutal Moslem pressure and economic imperatives is an ugly, baseless distortion.

That the BBC fattered this poor imitation of a PLO indoctrination movie is hardly surprising. The network has become a dedicated instrument of anti-Israel propaganda. But it is astonishing that it did not even pretend to go through the most elementary paces of professional journalism. With charges which make Israel appear only slightly less criminal than Nazi Germany fired every minute of the 45-minute-long program, exactly 65 seconds are devoted to an Israeli comment.

It consists of Glass talking with Uri Mor, the government's director of Christian Community Affairs. Mor dismissed the charges of land confiscation for the canards they are, and explained that Christian Arabs, being a minority, had to prove to the Palestinians that they were part of their national movement by denouncing Israel.

Coming at the end of 45 minutes of horror stories, scenes of tearful airport farewells and testimonies

of brutalities by a young man in a wheelchair, Mor's one minute of simple, cold truths were made to sound like a heartless, callous evasion.

WHEN SHOWN in Britain on April 17, the program included an interview with Jim Schutz of the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem. The next day, Schutz threatened to take legal action against the BBC.

In a letter to series editor John Drury he complained: "To obtain an interview with me, the director-producer Judy Jackson seriously misrepresented the subject matter of the film and the reason for wanting my interview, as she stated to me that it would be about Christians in general in Israel and about the work of the ICEJ itself."

"At no point before, during or after the interview was anything said to me about the sufferings of Palestinian Christians who were being driven out of their land due to the Israeli occupation. The film seriously distorts and misrepresents my words because they were spoken in an entirely different context from which they were used... We deny the right of the BBC to broadcast... my interview."

The interview was promptly dropped from the World Service broadcast on April 20.

The program was too much even for Britain's Jewish Board of Deputies, the Council for Christians and Jews and the Israeli embassy, all known mostly for diagnosing spit as rain. They all protested to Drury.

In defense, Drury told the *Jewish Chronicle*, "We made it clear that the film reflected Charles Glass's personal impressions and interpretations." Nothing could

be further from the truth. The program never mentions Glass until the credits are rolled at the end. The credit — which stays on screen for precisely two seconds — says "written and narrated by Charles Glass." "based on a book by Said Aburish" and "directed and produced by Judy Jackson."

Drury also told the paper, "We seek balance through the multiplicity of views we broadcast. It would be wrong to focus on one programme and interpret it as a BBC view."

This brought a response from Andrew Tunick of the Yorkshire/Israel Office, who wrote Drury. "Surely this can only be viewed as a meaningful statement if an *Everyman* program addresses the Arab-Israeli dispute from a Jewish and Israeli perspective."

BUT TO wait for the BBC to present a program from an Israeli perspective is to wait for hell to freeze over. What Drury must have had in mind was not a BBC production of a pro-Zionist heresy, but something like a program the BBC World Service screened on the same day, which depicts the persecution of Jews in the Middle Ages. It asserts — correctly — that in the Middle Ages it was Britain which gave the world the first anti-semitic blood libel, mass slaughter and expulsion of Jews.

The compassion of BBC producers for Jews as victims of 800 years ago is unbounded. What they cannot countenance is the upstart Israeli of today. And they are far too obtuse to notice that Charles Glass's fabrications of Israeli soldiers wantonly butchering Arab youths are nothing but a modern version of the 12th-century blood-libel they so righteously and indignantly disdain.

The tired mediocrats

ARE YOU one of those Israeli Jews who is too busy to read newspapers or tune in to tedious news programs and out-shout shows on radio and television?

If so, pay careful attention to the message of a veteran local political and military pundit, Ron Ben Yishai of *Yedioth Aharonot*.

You Jews of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Afula; of Ein Hanezvi, Ein Shemer and Ein Vered; of Beit Yotir, Beit Ha'emek and Beit Hakerem; of Efrat, Ariel and Ma'aleh Ephraim — you who are too busy doing your jobs; raising your children; striving to build a good physical and spiritual future for the Jewish people in our homeland; bearing the literal, physical rocks, knives, bullets and bombs of Arab terrorists and the figurative, verbal rocks, knives, bullets and bombs of our purported leaders, the mediocracy, and your Now-is countrymen.

You scores of thousands of Jews too busy in the general effort to fortify our society by voluntary acts of *zedaka* *vahessed* (justice and grace) and return our nation to the high road of Jewish history: Stop what you're doing for a moment and pay attention.

According to Ben Yishai, you — or whatever portion you constitute of that "very large segment" of the Jewish community here to whom he refers — have been overcome by hysteria; have lost your pertinacity, your mettle, your will, your belief in the justice of our cause in Eretz Yisrael and hence your readiness to fight and suffer for it (*Yedioth Aharonot*, April 24).

Contrary to the history of the Beilin/Peres/Rabin virtually unconditional, crawling capitulation, Ben Yishai finds that "the Palestinians brought us to the negotiations table because they displayed an impressive pertinacity and ability to take it during the period of the intifada."

Do you hear that, you worms of Metula, Katzin, Meholah and Eilat?

So you thought you had been deceiving the world by sublimating your hysteria in pretending to go about your work, traveling where you had to travel, and sending your children to school in the face of rock showers, burning-tire obstacles, flying bullets and roadside bombs.

VIEW FROM NOV

MOSHE KOHN

And all of you engaged in trying to shake our government out of its pseudo-messianic peace-now/new-Middle-East hallucination — you are "pushing Rabin and Peres into a corner."

I pray that Ben Yishai is right. I pray that that capitulation team will quickly be in the corner of a decision to call an early national election to see what connection there is between the mandate we thought we gave them in 1992 and the prevaricating path they have since taken.

Meanwhile, I think it is the Ben Yishaiist mediocrats who are tired.

I HAVE occasionally discussed here that classic Jewish disease, *disporria* (the Greek name; in Latin, *exilis*).

A major symptom is a compulsive performance of acts or issuing of declarations aimed at pleasing non-Jewish neighbors. The afflicted repeat those acts and declarations regardless of the consequences for their own dignity and interests and regardless of the neighbors' indifference.

This returns me to a subject I had vowed not to return to: Baruch Goldstein's Purim massacre in the Machpela Cave, and some disporriaic reactions to it.

Twice I wrote categorically condemning his act. Each time I noted our officialdom's categorical condemnation of his and similar acts by other Jews.

But I criticized Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and others for effecting fulsome declarations to the effect that Goldstein had made them "ashamed to be a Jew and an Israeli."

I also noted the chronic failure of Arab officialdom, including that of the "moderate" PLO, to similarly condemn atrocities committed by Arabs against Jews and against our Arab allies.

I thought that by writing what I did, I would focus readers' attention on aspects of the history of Arab-Jewish relations of which they may not have been aware. Apart from that, and apart from its possible effect on my standing in my family and in society, I did

not think my attitude was of any consequence.

The only Jewish comments that matter to the world are those of our elected national political and religious leaderships.

Therefore, I think that the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel behaved disporriaicly when it adopted at its recent national convention and then published a resolution of condemnation.

Who asked the AACI to be officially ashamed of Goldstein? Did he, as he opened fire, shout, "Long live the AACI!" as Arab murderers of Jews or our allies shout, "Allahu akbar!"

If the AACI feels it *does* have special standing in such matters, there are many phenomena here and in North America on which it ought to adopt resolutions.

More execrable than the AACI action is that of Rabbi Zvi Grumet of Teaneck, New Jersey, principal of an Orthodox high school in that area, and several other Orthodox rabbis and Jewish educators.

The AACI action was taken according to democratic procedure. Not Grumet's.

With the collaboration of several colleagues, he organized two dozen Jewish high schools around the US, asking the pupils to donate \$10 each for a full-page advertisement in *The New York Times* condemning Goldstein's action (it appeared on March 30). They didn't tell everyone that the money was going for, and many pupils, parents and grandparents who paid felt deceived.

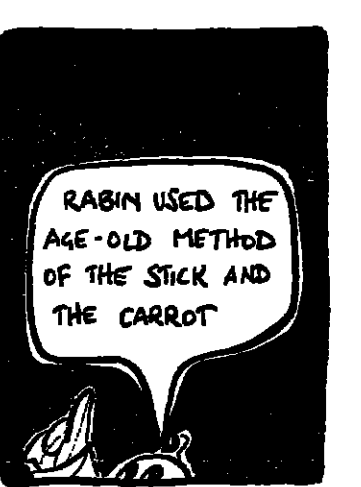
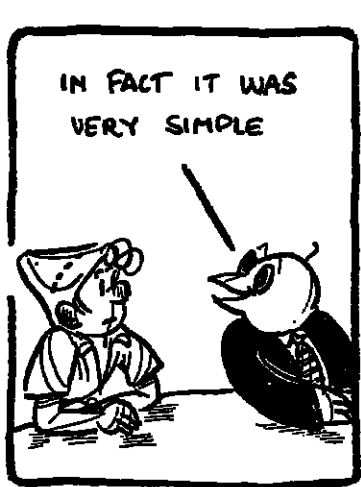
No less important: As in the instance of the AACI, what made Grumet and his colleagues think they or their institutions had a special standing in the matter requiring them to issue a public declaration?

One leading Orthodox rabbi and educator who promoted the project thought the ad was an act of *kiddush Hashem* (glorification of God and of Judaism).

I for one ask him to spare us such glories.

(With thanks to Dr. Joseph Lerner of Jerusalem, president of IMRA-Israel Media Research and Analysis, and Yehiel Leiter, head of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea/Samaria/Gaza District [Yeshia] foreign desk.)

SRULIK



by DOSH

An everlasting marriage to the land

SHABBAT SHALOM

SHLOMO RISKIN

"God spoke to Moses at Mount Sinai, telling him to speak to the Israelites and say to them: When you come to the land that I am giving you, the land must be given a rest period, a sabbath to God. For six years you shall plant your fields, prune your vineyards and harvest your crops, but the seventh year is a sabbath of sabbaths for the land." (Lev. 25:14)

THIS week's double portion of *Behar-Bechukotai* opens with the laws of *shmitta*, the manifestation of God's total involvement in the Land. These days, when the issue of land is on everyone's mind, we have to remind ourselves how it was possible that despite almost 2,000 years of exile, the Jews never stopped dreaming of their return to Israel — and have indeed returned in our generation. Wherein lies the origin of this relationship?

Ordinarily, Jewish law divides along two lines: requirements between humans and God, and requirements between one human and another. But there is a third realm: the duty of a Jew toward his land.

Our portion of *Behar*, the climax of *Leviticus*, emphasizes this third realm, replete with laws of tithing, the necessity of allowing the land to lie fallow during the *shmitta* year, and the command to return all property to its original owner in the Jubilee year.

But in order to grasp the full

symbolism of a Jew's relationship to the Land, and how it is at the crux of our experience as Jews, we must note a much earlier biblical incident, when our first patriarch purchased a plot for his wife's gravesite, paying an astonishingly high sum for a relatively tiny piece of land.

Abraham's purchase not only provides us with proof that our claim to Hebron reaches back to our earliest beginnings; it inextricably links the founders of our faith/nation with the Land of Israel.

Furthermore, this purchase echoes the commitment which the Bible expects a husband and wife to have for each other, a commitment which extends beyond physical life and involves a significant monetary expenditure. Indeed, the Sages of the Talmud derive our form of engagement, *kiddushin* (with any object of material value), from Abraham's purchase of the plot that would serve as Sarah's burial place (B.T. *Kedushin* 2a).

The Talmud deduces the "taking" of a wife in marriage from the "taking" of the land. Thus, Halacha creates a metaphorical parallel between marriage, land and eternity, alluding to the magnificent ideal that we must develop an

eternal relationship of love and commitment to our land, paralleling the relationship of love and commitment to our spouse.

But to understand what it means to be "engaged" or "married" to the land, let's first isolate three components of marriage, and then trace these components back to our portion of *Behar-Bechukotai*.

First of all, marriage contains the physical or sexual component, called *biya* (lit. entrance), expressing the exclusivity of the love relationship.

Second, there are the fundamental obligations to one another outlined in the Bible (*Mishpatim, Shmot*) and clearly delineated in the fifth chapter of tractate *Ketubot*.

Third, the Torah sees marriage as an eternal relationship. Abraham's obligations to Sarah continue even beyond her lifetime, as we have seen, and the prophet Hosea describes God's engagement to Israel: "I shall betroth you to me forever." (Hosea 2:21)

Although divorce is allowable if there is no better solution, the rabbinic view is that "Even the altar of the Holy Temple weeps when a husband and wife are divorced." (B.T. *Gittin* 90b)

Even when psychologists col-

lide, biology heals, for the birth of a child and the eternal potential of this new creature declare the true continuity of the marital relationship.

Turning to this week's portion, we find that these elements relate to the land of Israel as well! The very opening words — "When you come into the land" — include the verb whose root refers to sexual relations between husband and wife. And when we're told to halve the 50th year, (Lev. 25:10) the Torah employs "*kidashem*," the rabbinic expression for marriage.

Second, no sooner have we entered the land than the Torah instructs us concerning our obligation to it (much like the obligations which a husband has to his wife).

Third, just as there is an eternal aspect to marriage, there is an eternal aspect to the Jews' relationship to their land. During the Jubilee, the Torah commands that all land sold in the previous 50 years return to its original owner (Lev. 25:13).

People love the land of their birth — a love so central that one's homeland is often called "motherland" or "fatherland." These terms are absent in the Hebrew language; our relationship to the land is not one of child to parent, but of husband to wife.

May we be worthy of each other.

Shabbat Shalom

'National AIDS': A mythical disease that needs no cure

ON THE BORDER

JEFF GREEN

MY political views are known and, to put it mildly, not shared by the other men in the Ashkenazi daily minyan in Abu-Tor. Several election campaigns ago, an alert reader in the congregation noticed my signature on an ad sponsored by religiously observant supporters of Mapam, and he reproached me vehemently: "They raise pigs on their kibbutzim! How can you vote for them?"

I avoid arguments with my fellow worshippers by ignoring the remarks they occasionally throw my way as we put on our prayer shawls and tefillin. I don't expect to change their minds, so far, but they express have, so far, not persuaded me. The other day, however, one of them, a prominent Jerusalem attorney and a

man of high intelligence and wide erudition, both in secular and Jewish fields, thrust an op-ed piece into my hand and said I had to read it.

I have. The piece, which appeared in *Ha'aretz* on April 18, was by Gedalia Gvirtzman, a professor of geology at Bar-Ilan University. It is entitled, "Breakdown in the nation's immunity."

Writing with verve and righteous indignation, Gvirtzman first describes the immune deficiency syndrome, and then argues that the left's failure to distinguish between enemies (the Arabs) and friends (the settlers) is a sign of a breakdown in our immune system — "national AIDS," as he calls it. He argues that since we are in a state of war with the Arabs, to call for honoring their human rights, as though they were comparable to Jews, is unrealistic and self-destructive.

The more I read, the more astonished I was that someone as

well-educated as Gvirtzman could write something so foolish, and that a lawyer as perceptive as my neighbor should have failed to spot the holes in Gvirtzman's argument.

Use of the AIDS analogy is little more than name-calling, and not a serious argument. Everyone is petrified of AIDS, that mysterious and so-far incurable illness. To label an opposing political opinion a symptom of AIDS is, in essence, a panicked admission of defeat on the conceptual level. Unable to persuade one's listeners (those who are not already convinced, at any rate) of the rational and empirical flaws in the opposing argument, one makes a transparent effort to frighten people away from it.

To advance a meaningful argument, Gvirtzman would have to prove that his analogy enhances our understanding of political processes. Is the etiology of breakdowns and crises in society and

politics similar to that of diseases in biological organisms? Are there political T cells and antibodies floating about in the political circulatory system, ready to attack dangerous invading germs? Gvirtzman's claim that there is something like an immune system in political bodies is actually an anti-democratic call for the suppression of opinions that diverge from his own.

GVIRTZMAN IS incensed because many Israelis have expressed the view that the behavior of the settlers in the occupied territories should be subject to the same legal and moral standards as that of the Palestinians. As he says, "This [alleged] symmetry [between Jews and Arabs] in relation to the entire political dispute is the basis for national suicide. To blur perception of the identity of the enemy and his intentions, to relate to enemy and friend as equals, and assert the symmetry

between the wolf and the sheep — expresses dangerous naivete."

In short, according to Gvirtzman, the Arabs are wolves, and we are sheep — though he does not mention that we are the best-armed sheep in ovine history.

According to the professor, the Arabs are now, have always been, and always will be the implacable enemies of the Jews and of Zionism, and any offer of peace or of a cease-fire is merely an effort on their part to buy time in preparation for the final offensive.

If this is true, I wonder why two prominent political leaders from Nablus, people who have served long sentences in Israeli prisons for membership in hostile organizations, accepted our invitation to attend our Pessah seder.

Was it part of a concerted, sinister plot to lure naive Jews into thinking they had undergone a change of heart? What exactly would it take to convince someone like Gvirtzman that not every

Arab is out to kill us all and destroy the State of Israel, that when some of them say they are willing to live side by side with us in peace, they mean it? After all, the ones who don't want to live with us in peace do not hesitate to say so.

Our friends from Nablus accepted the invitation because they like us, and were curious. In prison they had been forced to eat matza every year, and no one had ever explained why. As we proceeded through the ritual, I kept thinking to myself, "We're showing you the secret of our strength here, the reality of the Jewish people, our continuity and our rootedness in the Middle East and the Land of Israel. Can you see it?"

I think they could. If they hadn't wanted to learn about us, they wouldn't have come. I also thought to myself, "The story of our liberation from slavery in Egypt must inspire us, and you, not to enslave anyone else."

Along with our Nablus guests, we had two Jewish families with all their children, veteran immigrants like ourselves from England and the US, and three German musicians, one of whom is also Jewish.

If Gvirtzman seeks an analogy, why not use the Germans? Have we ever had a greater or more murderous enemy? Yet today, though Jews can never forgive Nazi Germany or forget what was done to us, generally we live on civilized terms with the Germans.

Given the proper circumstances, people change. Why is it less realistic to believe that our Arab enemies might change their minds than to believe that their enmity is as immutable and eternal as the law of gravity?

If we're going to throw medical insults at each other, I could accuse Gvirtzman of senility brought on by hardening of the arteries. But I prefer to discuss arguments on their merits.

A global business vision with 20-20 foresight

An Australian business magnate says Israel's greatest natural resource is its brainpower, Allison Kaplan Sommer writes

AUSTRALIAN business-
man John Gough was con-
sidered a maverick when
he began opening factories in Ma-
laysia, Indonesia and China 15
years ago.

Now that the future of Australia's economy is seen to lie in co-operation and integration with its Pacific neighbors, he has been proven a visionary.

Gough, 65, ruddy-faced, hearty and cheerful, fits the stereotype of the happy-go-lucky Aussie. In fact, he is the elder statesman of the Australian business world.

He is chairman of Pacific Dunlop Ltd., the company he served as chief executive officer in the 1980s. The multifaceted company makes a variety of products, with an emphasis on rubber goods, including tires and condoms.

In addition, he sits on the boards of five of the country's 10 largest companies, including its largest bank.

He is also chairman of the advisory board of the Graduate School of Business Administration at the University of Melbourne, where he passes on the management principles which have led to his success.

One of his central guidelines: Make sure you have fun.

"Unless you enjoy what you do, don't do it," Gough said.

"I often tell our younger people that unless you wake up wanting to go to work in the morning, you haven't found your correct job. Unless you are working and you look at your watch and say: 'Oh dear, it is already 6 o'clock,' then you are really not really involved in the task. When you are really involved, you don't think of it as hard work."

Gough brought his business instincts and his sense of fun here last week as leader of the Israel-Australia, New Zealand and Oceania Chamber of Commerce.

The 40 Australian businessmen on the mission - most of them non-Jews - toured the country and got an overview of industry and research.

Gough was so impressed with the agricultural research at the Volcani Institute that he brought one of its tomatoes with him to display at a cocktail reception held for the delegation.

GOUGH VIEWS business globally, and has seen it pay off. When he took the helm of Pacific Dunlop in 1980, the company relied on protective tariffs. He turned it into a firm that could stand up to any kind of competition, according to a glowing Australian press.

Today, it has more than 80 factories all over the world, in China, Taiwan, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Mexico and Malaysia. During his stewardship, Pacific Dunlop's assets grew from \$415 million in 1980 to more than \$2 billion when he retired as CEO in 1987. The profit growth rate during that period was 30 percent, and sales revenue went up 17 percent, he said.

Gough said he found similarities in the futures of Australian and Israeli manufacturing.

"I think that both our futures are linked to having intelligent and well-educated societies," he said, "because in the end, the success of our economy and the fulfillment of people is going to come about by having goods that you can sell around the world. To do that, they are going to have to be a lot of technical goods, because cheap goods are going to come from Asia."

"Asia is growing so fast. [Asian countries] have GNP growth rates of up to 12 percent to 13 percent ... and they are big nations, great populations. China has 1.2 billion people - dextrous, intelligent, hardworking people. Indonesia has 104 million people."



Australian tycoon John Gough compares Israel with Singapore and sees a Middle East success story. (Jeremy Feldman)

The only way that countries like Israel, population 5.3 million, and Australia, with about 17.5 million people, can thrive, he said, is by "offering goods with a difference, often called niche products, and in areas where your intelligent people and workforce can be creative."

Australia, however, is blessed with a large land mass and natural resources that give its economy a stronger base.

Still, from his travels, Gough said he has seen small countries without resources, but with "cohesiveness and determination of purpose," have made their economies thrive.

"The only resources you've got in Israel, by my observation, is people. You are exactly the same as Singapore. As I see it, Singapore and Israel are in the same situation. You have a small land mass, little area for agriculture, but highly intelligent people with a high standard of living."

"What Singapore has done recently is just remarkable. Their wage costs now, and their stan-

dard of living, is equal to Australia. Another country that is interesting is Japan, because Japan too has little resources other than people, and look what they've achieved. So what you need is a cohesive society working towards common goals."

Gough believes that great benefits for Australia lie in becoming a link to its neighboring Pacific countries. That belief intensified during his visit to Israel, speaking to businessmen here who are eager to do business in Malaysia and Indonesia, but are having difficulty overcoming the difficulties of penetrating these Moslem nations.

Israel is a perfect example, he said, of a country that can really use Australia as a bridge to new markets.

"I think Australia has to become very sophisticated towards Asia. We have to become very knowledgeable and a gateway to Asia, so those from faraway nations will seek advice on how to do business in the whole vast-growing Asian-Pacific area, will turn to

Australia for banking advice, manufacturing advice, political advice. We have to build institutions and to specialize in this."

AS FOR future investment in Israel, "I would be quite positive about it. I would be quite positive about brainpower industries. I think computer software would be good, but I am not in that business. I find it difficult to understand it."

One potential area of investment, he said, is in the extensive development of medical instruments currently going on here. Pacific Dunlop is already involved in the field, producing an instrument which helps those who are born profoundly deaf hear and makes it possible to teach them to speak.

As a staunch believer in trade and cooperation with China and Southeast Asia, Gough disagrees with those in Australia who believe that human-rights policy and trade policy necessarily go hand in hand.

"I have a thing about Australia hectoring other countries about

their policies and what they are doing. I think that we are 17.5 million people, and we should trade with nations and do our best to influence them if that's what we want to do."

"But I'm not sure we should stand on podiums and start lecturing. In some of these countries, you really have to understand the history and problems they are facing. No country is perfect. If we stood up every day and lectured the US about its drug problem, I don't think we'd get very far. I think in the halls of power is where you can talk quietly and be influential."

During his sightseeing here, Gough admired more than just economic development.

"The world could learn something," he said, from the way modern Jerusalem has been built.

"I think the architecture in Jerusalem is just fabulous. The uniformity, the modern design, the way the modern design fits totally into the historical surroundings - it's better than I've seen anywhere else in the world."

Me-toos become no-nos

Firms cut back on copycat drugs, David S. Hilzenrath reports

CHANGES in the health-care business are driving many drug companies to do something their critics have long been urging - curtail development of so-called me-too drugs, which serve essentially the same purpose as products already on the market.

Those pharmaceutical makers are increasing their emphasis on potential "breakthrough" drugs - major medical advances - because health insurers' efforts to reduce costs are making me-too drugs, harder to market profitably, industry executives said.

"We're very ruthlessly stopping projects when we think that we will be second or third in the marketplace or if the advantage afforded by a new molecule is not a really substantial innovative leap forward," said Leigh Thompson, chief scientific officer of Eli Lilly & Co.

The pressure on me-toos is coming from managed-care health plans, which are using their growing influence to squeeze pharmaceutical prices. Managed-care plans often develop lists of drugs approved for coverage under their prescription-drug benefits, and they frequently negotiate discounts with suppliers for products on the lists.

DRUGMAKERS SAID it can be difficult to get me-too drugs added to the lists, and they expect it to become even harder to command high enough prices to recoup their investment in me-toos.

"The payers simply are not going to pay premium prices for me-too drugs," said an executive at one company that manages drug purchases for health insurers.

"The bucks aren't going to be there."

But by producing fewer me-toos, drugmakers could make it more difficult for insurers and other large buyers to bargain down prices. Although they are "often derided as not contributing to health care," me-too drugs are needed if there is to be price competition, the government's Office of Technology Assessment said in a report last year.

Drug-industry critics have faulted manufacturers in the past for lavishing time and money on me-too drugs when they could be developing cures and treatments for unsolved medical problems.

But drugmakers say one risk of a "no me-too policy" is that research will be aborted before they know whether the chemicals they are studying will lead to incremental or major advances.

Another is that companies will stay out of races to develop specific products if they perceive themselves as trailing another company, only to see the frontrunner falter somewhere down the road.

Me-too drugs often offer measurable, if modest, advantages in safety or effectiveness over the products that precede them, industry officials say. Medicines do not affect everyone the same way, and the benefits of the me-too product can be profound for some patients, they say.

"I'm worried that we are going to find ourselves developing too few drugs because we are setting our standards too high," said Leon Rosenberg, president of the research arm of Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. and a former dean of Yale Medical School. (The Washington Post)

A resented and controversial new species: Swedish yuppies

IN a stock trading room above a cobblestone street in Stockholm's gentrified old city, Mattias Westman sits on the front lines of a bitter and unfinished struggle that Swedes call *systemskaifte*, or changing the system.

As Sweden slogs out of its deepest recession since the 1930s, this proudly egalitarian country is grappling with a broad challenge: how to create new jobs while revising a cradle-to-grave welfare system it can no longer afford.

A central question is what to do with young men like Westman and

his colleagues at the dynamic and successful brokerage firm Hagstrom & Qviberg - a prominent symbol of that most resented and controversial species, the new Swedish yuppie.

"There are too few young people coming into the market," Westman lamented while juggling telephones and punching buttons on computerized stock screens. So unpopular is the flashy, unapologetic pursuit of wealth in Sweden these days, he said, that "people in the financial community have become more subdued. They're

The country can no longer afford its cradle-to-grave welfare system and has cut back on some benefits, Steve Coll reports from Stockholm

not driving Porsches. They're driving Saabs."

His parents are slightly embarrassed that he trades stocks. Westman conceded.

"Of course, they're pleased I'm doing well and earning a lot of

money," he said, "but maybe they'd rather I was an industrialist." After pausing to speak on the telephone, he reported, "A friend just rang to say he bought a Ferrari yesterday - it's not *that* bad."

WESTMAN'S COMMENTS reflect ambivalence about free markets in Sweden more than two years after a center-right government led by Prime Minister Carl Bildt plunged the country into a brave new post-socialist world. He promised a trimmer welfare state, lower taxes and greater freedom of choice in society and the economy.

After decades of building a mixed socialist and capitalist system - "capitalism without capitalists," as government economist Klas Eklund called it - Sweden is attempting to introduce new market incentives in its state-dominated, welfare-driven system. Because of its generous across-

the-board social benefits, that system was a model for Europe during the postwar period and the envy of many in the industrialized world.

No more. It is going broke, and quickly.

Yet many Swedes, while recognizing that some break with their past is inevitable, insist that in their pursuit of the free markets, they do not want Swedish rich to become very much richer or Swedish poor to become very much poorer. The question dividing the country today is whether this approach is possible anymore, or desirable.

"I don't think Swedes have adjusted yet to the new freedoms," said Peter Egardt, Bildt's chief of staff.

"We are not used to big differences in income... Something in our mind says, 'You shan't stand out too much.'"

Bildt's government already has

produced changes that are radical by Sweden's compass. More are pending in parliament.

SINCE 1992, Swedish unemployment benefits have been cut by more than 10 percent, sick leave has been trimmed, health-care systems have been revised to include individual contributions, private schools have grown fourfold because of new government incentives and private pension plans have mushroomed to supplement a state retirement system that is being overhauled.

Taxes have fallen, and financial markets have been loosened.

Even the crown jewel of Sweden's old system, heavily subsidized government day care that encouraged one of the highest female labor-force-participation rates in the developed world, has come under assault.

Subsidized but privately managed day care has been introduced to compete with the government's facilities.

Olof Palme, Sweden's widely beloved, assassinated socialist leader of the 1980s, once called such alternatives "Kentucky Fried Children." For better or worse, they are part of the new Sweden. (The Washington Post)

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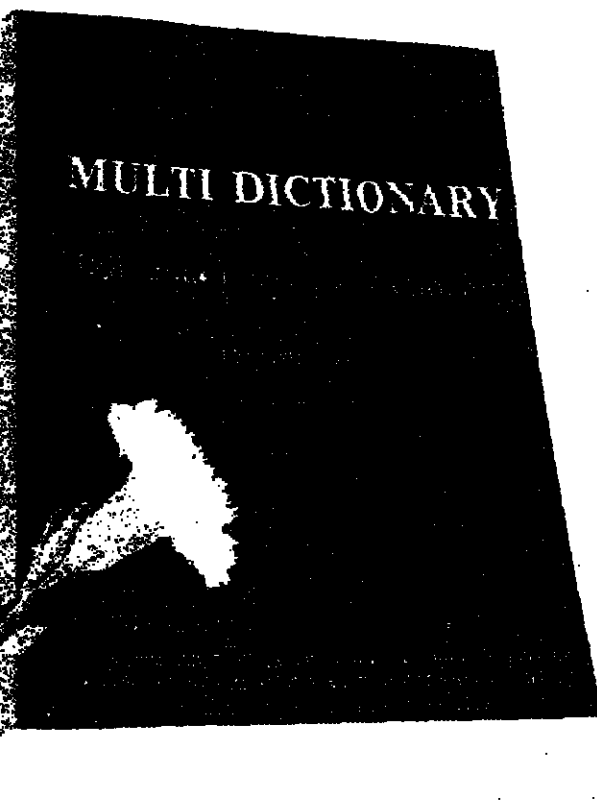
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Unnerved by postal delays

DURING the recent Oslo International, one of the big surprises was the performance of the hitherto unheard of Gunnar Berg-Hansen.

Every day people were sure that his bubble would burst and that he would finally be beaten by one of his more illustrious opponents. And every day he drew or won.

I remember consoling the British Grandmaster Julian Hodgson with the words: "Don't worry Jules, at least he wasn't rated," only to hear them returned to me after I failed to beat Berg-Hansen in the last round.

A draw or a loss against a low-rated player can severely effect one's rating. But if you draw or lose against an unrated player, there is no damage to your rating except for the lost half or full point in the score table.

What was the secret of Berg-Hansen's success? It turned out that he had a portable computer with all the latest games, and his preparation was simply superb.

Working for the post office in the wild north of Norway left him plenty of time to study chess, and even such notables as Grigori Serper, a young Grandmaster from Uzbekistan, found himself totally outgunned in the opening.

Serper innocently followed a main line of the Meran Defense, only to run straight into a big theoretical novelty that had been played a few weeks earlier in a game from Linares, Anatoly Karpov playing White against Vladimir Kramnik.

Serper continued to follow Kramnik's play only to have very strong replies flashed out immediately; he was essentially playing Black against Karpov. Finally his nerve went and he offered a draw, which Berg-Hansen accepted with alacrity.

Serper later explained to me that he didn't know about Karpov-Kramnik as the mail to Uzbekistan is very unreliable right now.

CHESS

NIGEL DAVIES

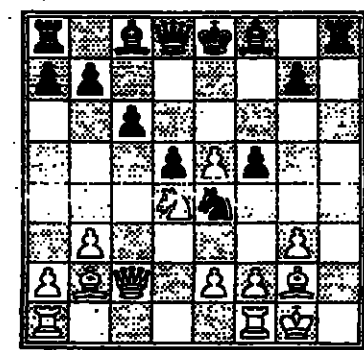
Probably he should either emigrate to Israel (Serper is Jewish), where the mail is pretty good these days, or choose openings in which the theory does not develop at such hair-raising speed.

Karpov, A - Kramnik, V
Meran Defense
1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 e6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3

Until recently Karpov used to play 6.Qc2 in this position, and after 6...Bd6 the quiet 7.Be2. The real cavemen lash out with 7.g4? or play 5.Bg5 a move earlier.

6...dxc4 7.Bxc4 b5 8.Bd3 a6 9.e4 c5 10.d5 c4 11.dxc6 bxc6 12.Bc2 Bb7 13.0-0 Qc7 14.Ng5 Ne5 15.e5!

They used to play 15.f4 in this position to prepare 16.e5, no doubt assuming that the following endgame would be harmless for Black. Karpov has superb intuition, especially in such simplified positions, and has come to the conclusion that it is not so easy for Black. (See diagram.)



15...Qxe5 16.Re1 Qd6 17.Qxd6 Bxd6 18.Be3! 0-0 19.Ra1 Be7 20.Bxc5 Bxc5 21.Nxe6 Rf8 22.h3! Karpov's play is very arful. He appreciates that his knight on e6 is more important than Black's bishop pair, and now sets about mobilizing his kingside pawn majority. 22...Bf8 23.g4 h6 24.f4 Bf5 25.Rd2

Be6 26.g5 hxe5 27.fxe5 Nd7 28.Nxd8!

Only now does he take the bishop in order to penetrate with the rook to d6. Despite the paucity of material, Black will have some trouble with his king. 28...Nxf8 29.Rd6 b4 30.Ne4 Be8 31.Ng3 Rd8 32.Nf5

Homing in on the g7 square after which Kramnik's plight becomes desperate. 32...Rxd6 33.Nxd6 Bg6

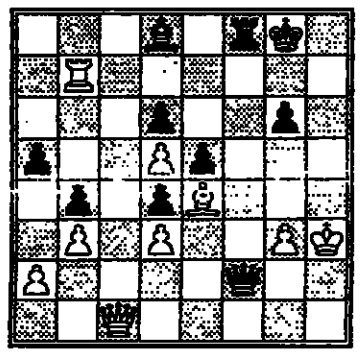
If 33...Bb5 then 34.Re7 threatens to return to f5 with the knight. Kramnik jettisons a pawn to finally activate his rook, but Karpov consolidates with ease. 34.Bxg6 Nxg6 35.Nxe4 Rd8 36.Re4!

Supporting the knight and preparing an advance of the h-pawn. 36...h3 37.exh3 Rd3 38.Kg2 Rxb3 39.h4 Nf8 40.Re8

1-0

An unspectacular but deeply impressive performance.

This week's problem is from the game Matveeva-Stefanova from a recent women's tournament in Belgrade. White to play found a neat way to force resignation. (See diagram.)



The solution to last week's problem (Schwarz-Zilberman) was 1...Bh4!! 2.gxh4 Qe3+!! 3.Qxe3 dxe3 and the Black passed pawn cannot be stopped. The game ended with 4.Rd7 e2 5.Rxd6 e1=Q 6.Rxg6+ Kf7 7.d6 Qxe4 0-1.



Each spring, the Galilee comes to life with thousands of wildflowers, a stark contrast to the bare winter months.

(L. Pleskov)

Galilee, a good place for all seasons

NATURE

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

A little more than a century ago, David Shub was sent here from Romania to see if Galilee was a good place for Jews to settle.

He arrived in midwinter. It must have been a fine rainy season, for he returned to Europe and told the prospective settlers that the hills were lush and green, and that there was a beautiful river where they could catch fish.

Of course when the Jews arrived in late summer, the hills were bare, ribbed rocky ridges, and the river had disappeared, leaving only the dry wadi bed. It must have been quite a shock.

But this only illustrates in part the miracle that takes place in Galilee when it is good and rainy. Right now the hills are velvet

green, even though there hasn't been enough rain to fill the wadi and create a river, nor enough snow to put a real crown on the Hermon.

But the wildflowers are startling amongst the green foliage: anemones in red, lavender and white, and cyclamens in every shade of white to dark pink, with leaves so lovely it's hard to decide which is more attractive - the blossom or the leaf.

Wild calendula grow so close together that the flowers make a bright yellow patch.

There's even a dramatic indigo

lupine flower here and there. The Kinneret is a blaze of blue water, full up to its banks once again. After several years of receding shoreline, this is a welcome sight.

The Hula is once again a swamp, at least for a time. It is almost impossible to remember what it was like a few seasons ago. It is also hard to imagine that soon, all that is now green will be brown and sere, and that the glories of the rainy season will be just a memory.

But these drastic variations are what make this land so vitally interesting.

There's always something new or different.

I remember, when I lived in the tropics, how often I longed for autumn and winter. There was too much of a sameness about all that lush beauty, something stultifying about the eternal aroma of flower and vine. I often yearned for just one bare-branched tree against a winter sky.

Here, there are cool mornings even in midsummer, and the cold winter provides jewel-like days when the sky is clear, the sun is warm and you can sit outside and watch the birds foraging in the garden.

This variety makes it hard to complain about the weather - because whatever it is, tomorrow just may be different.

An impish smile for a partner

North dealer
North-South vulnerable

North (Jais)
♠ KQJ732
♥ QJ10
♦ 8654
♣ AKQJ103

East (Forquet)
♠ KQ107643
♥ K87653
♦ AKQJ103
♣ 972

South (Trezel)
♠ J852
♥ A1096
♦ 94
♣ 972

West (Siniscalco)
♠ A9
♥ 854
♦ A2
♣ AKQJ103

Opening lead: ♠K
D O you like to yell at your partner when he does something stupid? Or do you sit there and take it on the chin, smiling contentedly even though in your heart you are burning in rage?

Which is the better psychological approach? I believe there is a relationship between the psychological, outward appearance of a player to the style of game he plays.

For example, one who plays steady and does not preempt or give his partner headaches in the auction is less likely to yell and scream at his partner when things go wrong. Often the one who scolds is the one who created the volatile situation in the first place.

Another view is that the style you play should be determined by the type of game you are competing in. The late Monroe Ingberman offered much good advice on this subject in his book, *How to Win at IMPs*.

"A nice steady game," Ingberman writes, "won't win many pair games, but it is the most effective style at IMPs. In a typical match, both sides toss away bushels of IMPs, so that whichever side plays less badly emerges victorious."

"Bridge is a game of mistakes. A match in which both sides play well is a rare bird indeed. Invariably the losing side has beaten itself rather than been defeated by superior play."

The converse is also true. The great Al Roth, whose record in top-flight pair events is unsurpassed in America, once offered this advice in his Dr. Roth column: "Do something different at match points. Take chances. If everything goes your way on a given night, you will get with a win."

WHY ARE team games different from pairs? Because at teams your score is compared with only one other table. At pairs your score is compared with at least 12 other

BRIDGE

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

results.

Dallas Ace Bob Hamman once contrasted teams and pairs to a boxing match: "Teams is similar to two heavyweight boxers slugging it out. Pairs is like a ring filled with a hundred drunks and the one that's still standing at the end of the night is the winner."

"The psychology of team competition," Ingberman writes, "involves both the struggle of personalities as well as the ability to apply talent and skill upon demand. Concentration and self-discipline will often make the difference in a tough match. Competition at a high level in any sport is tough enough all by itself. But competition without courtesy and good manners is a special kind of hell, and the heat of the battles should not be an excuse to justify bad manners or bad ethics."

"Why do some players in every sport seldom give their best, while others seem to thrive on pressure? Every competitor fears defeat and failure. These feelings may be overwhelming - the result is bound to be ignominious defeat. You must learn to tame your fear with stubborn determination to concentrate completely on the task at hand. Much depends on appearances - always present a bold front, even when faced with an opponent whom you regard with awe and admiration. Nothing should show on the surface. A confident appearance is a great

asset at the bridge table.

"Shrug off your disasters, however difficult it may be. Always be sympathetic and understanding towards your partner. As an example of maintaining partner's morale under pressure the following effort by Pietro Forquet is unsurpassed."

TODAY'S DEAL, the finest example in history of shrugging off a bridge disaster, was first reported by Eric Janerstein in *Bridge World Magazine* in September, 1956. The scene was the European championship match between the two leaders, Italy and France.

Janerstein wrote: "Trezel's double of seven spades was obviously the height of indiscretion, since it might easily have guided declarer to a first round finesse against the spade jack, and that would have been that. However, as noted, Siniscalco (West) ran out to seven notrump, thereby reversing the good judgment he had displayed so consistently in previous cases. When North doubled the seven notrump contract and proceeded to take six heart tricks, Siniscalco must have suffered the tortures of the damned. But the Italians' fine team spirit was equal to the occasion. Pietro Forquet (East) uttered not a word of rebuke, and his good temper allowed his partner to recover and play well for the rest of the match."

Oh yes - Italy won the match, and with it the championship. Bravo to Forquet, who must have been boiling inwardly but never said a harsh word to his partner.

Jerusalem Vistas

Psalm 62:8
Trust in Him at all times, you people
Pour out your heart before Him
G-d is a refuge for us.

Isaiah 30:21
Your ears shall hear a word behind you
Saying, This is the way, walk in it
Whenever you turn to the right hand
or whenever you turn to the left

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CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Little money paid for underwear with little hesitation (5,3)
- 5 Prince enters diocese church for the address (6)
- 8 Anti prose? (6)
- 9 Fancy the idea of a siesta (3-5)
- 10 A bottle of wine can't be put into venison (8)
- 11 Exhibited son who made good (2,4)
- 12 King of the road! (8)
- 13 Good order for a highland costume (6)
- 15 Never mind - it doesn't (6)
- 18 Long drinks for men on board (8)
- 20 Caneists shoot them quietly during attacks (6)
- 21 Grand declaration of the working model (8)

DOWN

- 1 Pulls up grass (5)
- 2 Play the fool when there's a song in the air (4,5)
- 3 A jumper who is perspiring (7)
- 4 Rake tried modern cocktail-but he won't get drunk (8,7)
- 5 He got Antonio embarrassed over security installation (7)
- 6 The visible extent of King Harold's injury (7)

SOLUTIONS

Yesterday's Quick Solution
ACROSS: 1 Piece, 4 Unearth, 8 Unravel, 9 Vain, 10 Dwell, 11 Kacrol, 13 Over, 15 Reaps, 17 Stream, 20 Tier, 22 Phantom, 24 Owning, 26 Poker, 27 Embrace, 28 Scrooge, 29 Erect.

DOWN: 1 Plunder, 2 Eerie, 3 Envelop, 4 Unlike, 5 Baves, 6 Reserve, 7 Hotel, 12 Erse, 14 Veto, 16 Cracker, 18 Trouble, 19 Neglect, 21 Impede, 22 Peppa, 23 Tarsa, 25 Lrta.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 5 French monetary unit (5)
- 8 Views (8)
- 9 Wooden shoes (5)
- 10 Scorn (8)
- 11 Non-clerics (5)
- 14 Slightly sardonic (3)
- 16 Exclusive group (6)
- 17 Mooring device (6)
- 18 Water barrier (3)
- 20 Follower of Zeno (5)
- 24 Roman assembly hall (8)
- 25 Amusing (5)
- 26 Leave of absence (8)
- 27 Roman (5)

DOWN

- 1 Baglike container (5)
- 2 Demon (5)
- 3 Female fox (5)
- 4 Concealed gunman (6)
- 6 Dependence (8)
- 7 Denial (8)
- 12 Eating to excess (8)
- 13 Stocks and shares (8)
- 14 Marry (3)
- 15 Sweet potato (3)
- 19 Counting frame (6)
- 21 Young female horse (5)
- 22 Subtraction sign (5)
- 23 Wood-shaping machine (5)



Yisrael Kessar: A minister for all occasions

GRAPEVINE

GREER FAY CASHMAN

USUALLY one of the less conspicuous members of the cabinet, Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar this week became a candidate for the *Guinness Book of Records* when he took over the portfolios of the government ministers who went to Cairo for the signing.

As acting prime minister, Kessar also became responsible for Yitzhak Rabin's other portfolios, which include defense, health, interior and religious affairs. In addition, he temporarily replaced Shimon Peres as foreign minister, Avraham Shohat as finance minister, Moshe Shahal as police and energy minister, Yossi Sarid as environment minister and Shulamit Aloni as science, arts, culture and communications minister. "But I can't change anything," he quipped as he bade his colleagues farewell at Ben-Gurion Airport. "I don't have control of the Knesset."

ALTHOUGH SHE wore beige for the Gaza/Jericho signing ceremony, Lea Rabin's choice of a bright green suit to wear to Cairo on the eve of the signing by her husband and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat was politically incorrect. Green is the color worn by women opposed to the peace process. Many of them took to the streets on Tuesday night to participate in torchlight protest demonstrations.

IT LOOKED like poor organization by the Egyptians that kept septuagenarians Rabin and Shimon Peres on their feet for more than two hours during the signing ceremony. The stamina of each has been taxed in recent months by constant traveling, negotiations, speech-making and media interviews.

The least they could expect after an almost sleepless night was to be able to sit down even while history was being made. US Secretary of State Warren Christopher is no spring chicken either.

OFF TO South Africa on Sunday to witness the equally historic presidential inauguration of Nelson Mandela, Ezer Weizman will return home just in time to celebrate the first anniversary on May 13 of his own inauguration as president.

SOUTH AFRICAN radio journalist Lisa Chait, reporting from the Beloved Country on Israel Television's IBA News, urged South Africans in Israel to come back and join in the task of nation

building. Among those returning is ANC activist Esther Levitan. Thanks to the swift action of South African Ambassador Malcolm Ferguson, after *The Jerusalem Post* told him of her case, Levitan has just regained the South African citizenship she was deprived of 12 years ago. Interviewed on Educational Television, Levitan, who has spent the past decade in the Promised Land, told Israel Segal that she was going back to take up new challenges.

DEFENSE MINISTRY director-general Aluf (res.) David Ivri seldom betrays emotion. The former commander of the Air Force, who has frequently accepted pilots' invitations to visit the cockpit, never imagined that such an invitation would be extended on a Gulf Air carrier. Nor did he envisage that anyone traveling on an Israeli passport would be permitted to board. But Ivri, who this week led the delegation to the multilateral talks on arms control in Doha, Qatar, was but one of several Israeli passengers. The invitation to visit the cockpit came a few minutes before the plane was due to land. Deeply moved by the gesture, Ivri quickly acclimated to the turn of events both in the air and on the ground, declaring that "Qatar is yet another station on the road to Damascus."

CONFUSING TERMINOLOGY: Tel Aviv economics consultant Dr. Dan Morgenstern, a specialist in environmental affairs, frequently lectures on damage to the ozone layer. Interrupted during an address to a group of senior citizens, Morgenstern barely managed to keep a straight face when the interjector said: "You're very tall. Maybe you can see the hole in the ozone layer?"

ORGANIZERS OFFERED to give him a free ticket, but Libi founder MK Raphael Eitan declined and paid for his seat at the festive concert celebrating Libi's 14th anniversary and the 27th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem. Invited by moderator Gila Almogor to join her in competing the show, Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, after demurring briefly, allowed himself to be lured into the role following Almogor's promise to help him. He passed the test with flying colors.

RUMOR HAS it that former police inspector-general Rafi Peled, who resigned after the Supreme Court called for the reopening of investigations into the allegedly



(From top) Gila Almogor keeps a careful eye on her protegee, budding television star Ehud Olmert; Thai Princess Galyani Vadhana is greeted in appropriate manner by a Thai in Jerusalem; Yisrael Kessar, who was at one time Mr. Government. (Elhazar: Harabi)

exaggerated discounts he received from the Moriah hotel chain, will be the next director-general of the Israel Electric Corporation. One of the perks of working for the IEC is that electricity consumption for private use is gratis. That's better than any discount Peled ever received.

"IT SMELLS just like it did at home," said Bulgarian expatriate Shulamit Shamir in anticipation of the Hilton Tel Aviv's Bulgarian food festival. Her husband, former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir, was not there to share the culinary experience. He was in the Knesset trading insults with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. Also in the Knesset was Bulgarian-born Labor MK Emanuel Zissman who allowed politics to take precedence over pleasures of the palate. Former health minister Victor Shemtov, another prominent figure in the Bulgarian community, did not have to make that kind of choice. Shemtov, who has been out of the Knesset for several years, ignored potential health hazards as he dug into the rich Bulgarian cakes. Roj Ben-Yosef, chairman of the Tel Aviv and Coastal Plain Friends of Bezalel, steered clear of the food altogether, and broadcaster/actor Alex Ansky arrived after nearly everything was gone from the tables.

HAD SHE arrived a week earlier, Her Royal Highness Princess Galyani Vadhana, sister of American-born King Bhumibol of Thailand, might have found herself embroiled in a diplomatic incident. Bangkok Hilton, the feature film depicting the cruelty of the Thai



legal system and the corruption of Thai prison officials, was shown on Channel Two just three nights before she wound up her state visit to Jordan and crossed the Allenby Bridge. The princess, who is *inter alia* meeting with Thais who are working and studying here, missed out on celebrating the 44th anniversary this week of her brother's coronation. She will be here until May 9.

DUBIOUS ABOUT accepting a galabiya presented to him by the Druse community in Julis in the Western Galilee, Justice Minister David Liba'i forwarded it to a government committee that decides on what should be done with gifts given to representatives of the state. Liba'i discovered that his colleagues are not nearly as conscientious in querying whether or not they may keep their gifts. The committee receives very few inquiries and the last five were all made by Liba'i.

CONTRARY TO the contention by former president Chaim Herzog that Menachem Begin in the final year of his premiership was psychologically ill, former justice minister Dan Meridor, who served as cabinet secretary during the Be-



gin administration, claims that Begin was of sound mind, aware of what was going on and perfectly capable of functioning as prime minister until he announced he could not go on.

IDF CHIEF Rabbi Gad Navon, well past retirement age at 73, is none too keen to leave the army. Due to hand in his uniform in June after 17 years in office, Navon - who is angling to stay on for one more year - faces opposition from younger men who have been waiting for promotion.

A combination of frogs and 'rosbifs'

TRAVEL

KARIN DAVIES

THE English are slovenly, drunken, small minded and crude, inordinately fond of their pets, stouter and are sexually confused.

The French are self-important, rude, spineless, strutting provincials. Their food is overrated and they are "fond of scent but are strangers to soap."

The French and the English, how they love to loathe each other. An entente cordiale is unlikely to follow the first passengers through the \$15 billion Channel Tunnel this summer.

"As long as we don't physically fight, then it's good to keep our old battles between nations going ... and I hope the Channel Tunnel does not stop it," said the French author of a recent book, *To Be Done with the English*.

When the Channel will open to passengers is still anyone's guess, but it is set to be officially inaugurated today by Queen Elizabeth II and Francois Mitterrand, president of France.

Eurotunnel, the operating company, says it has taken longer than expected to check out all the systems and equipment developed for the twin rail tunnels under the English Channel. The tunnels, each 50.5 km. long, open behind the ruins of World War II German coastal defenses near Calais and in the English town of Folkestone, near Dover's famous White Cliffs.

They will carry high-speed trains, freights and shuttles transporting cars and trucks in competition with seagoing ferries. Operators of the Eurostar trains, which will make the London-Paris trip in three hours, hope to take business from airlines.

The Channel ends the historic British isolation expressed in the old joke, "Fog in the channel. Europe cut off."

ENGLAND'S educated classes are comfortable with all things French, from language to philosophers, but the English who cross

the Channel to buy vast quantities of beer on the cheap find little else to admire.

They follow *The Sun*, the tabloid whose headline insults have included "Hop Off You Frogs" and "Up Yours, Delors," a swipe at Jacques Delors, the French president of the European Union Commission.

The French alternate between ask-asking British loudness - "ah, les anglais" - and simply ignoring provocations, which can be the greatest insult of all.

"There are English who come and drink, and English who come to drink," said Mayor Jean Muselet of Boulogne, a ferry port that has seen its share of loud English drunks. "Those who come to drink are a bit irritating."

The English call the French "frogs" because of their taste for the legs of amphibians. To the French, the English are "rosbifs," a reference to their preferred Sunday dinner and a tendency to be fatty and white until exposed to heat, when they turn pink.

Language is used in other insulting ways. "Les anglais qui arrivent" ("The English are coming") is a French expression for menstruation.

To Be Done with the English was written by a French academic hiding behind the pen name Chantecleir, the boastful cockerel that symbolizes the French ego.

Chantecleir says the English do not have sex, they have unnatural practices. Edith Cresson, later a premier of France, was quoted in a British newspaper in 1991 as saying one-fourth of British men were homosexuals.

A.A. Gill, in a mischievous essay in *The Sunday Times*, responded: "The French have always had a vastly inflated view of themselves and they are having to come to terms with the fact that the rest of the world views them as funny, ill-mannered, strutting little provincials."

(Associated Press)

Chunnel: The boring facts

FACTS and figures on the tunnel under the English Channel:

LAYOUT - Three tunnels bored 40 m. under chalk seabed for 50.5 km. between Calais, France, and Folkestone, England. Two main tunnels, with service tunnel between, carry one-way rail traffic.

PIGGYBACK SERVICE - Cars and trucks carried by rail make the crossing in 35 minutes, about an hour less than by ferry. Passengers remain in vehicles.

HIGH-SPEED TRAINS - Paris-London run scheduled to take

three hours and Brussels-London a quarter-hour longer.

COST - The cost to date is \$13.1 billion and the company will ask investors for another \$1.5b. this year.

HOW BUILT - Eleven giant boring machines guided by satellites dug the passages, working from December 1987 to mid-1991. Main-tunnel borers weighed more than 1,000 tons, were 210 m. long, 8.5 meters high and laid concrete lining behind them. Borers could not be removed and were dismantled or dug their own graves to the side.

A national voice and simple images

JEFF GREEN

YEHUDA Amichai, Israel's best known poet, is turning 70 this month, and the event will be celebrated here and abroad.

Amichai, who was feted this week at Jerusalem's Mishkenot Sha'ananim artists' guest house, has produced a large body of fine poetry which is widely read in the original Hebrew and is widely translated.

He uses a limited, colloquial vocabulary making his poetry both accessible to native speakers and easy to translate.

His effects depend more on his witty and original imagery than on his use of language, as in the following: "I'm a demonstration. I raise/ My face like a placard. Everything's written there. Everything/ Please, there's no need to shoot tear gas/ I'm already crying. There's no need to disperse me/ I'm scattered/ And the dead, too, are a demonstration."

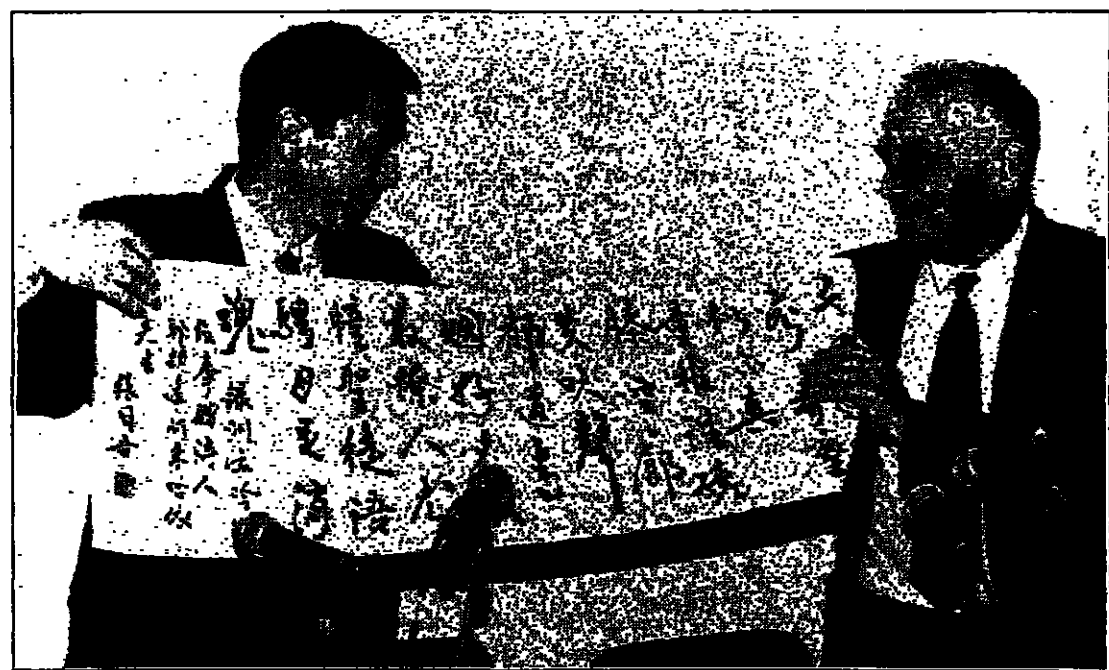
Clearly, Amichai's writing is admired for more than its originality. His simple language pierces the clichés of ordinary discourse and, emotionally, he is very profound.

Born in Würzburg, Germany, he came to Jerusalem at 13 with his middle-class, religiously observant family. He studied at the Ma'aleh High School, some of whose graduates would go on to enrich Israeli culture.

Amichai fought with the Jewish Brigade in World War II and with the Palmah in the War of Independence.

He served with Haim Guri, another prominent poet who is still one of Amichai's friends and admirers.

Unlike his native-born contemporaries who grew up on the poetry of Bialik, Tchernikhovsky, Altermann and Uri Zvi Greenberg, Amichai was exposed to poetry in English and German at an early and formative age. Critics point to



Amichai (r.) receives a Chinese translation of one of his poems in November. (Erwin Schenkelbach)

the influence of Auden and Rilke on his work.

He began writing in the 1950s while a student at the Hebrew University and was immediately recognized as a distinctive and im-

pressive talent. In addition to his poetry, he has written highly regarded fiction.

Critic Gabriel Moked, editor of *Ahava*, a major literary review, has been a friend of Amichai's since their university days.

Interviewed by Neri Livne in *Kol Ha'Ir* last week, he said: "Suppose a person wanted to get advice as to how to live from poetry. Well, the advice he would get from Amichai's poems that it's good to love and not to make war, it's good to be in a state of dialogue, living as a couple is a good thing, it's good to preserve friendship, it's good to live in a humane world."

Livne responded, provocatively, "Isn't that the morality of the mediocre, silent majority?"

Moked answered, "Yes, but af-

ter it's undergone a marvelous re-suscitation."

Amichai's voice is not one of conformity, but one of persons' rediscovery of well-known truths, a reexamination of the premises of life.

Paradoxically - and, were there no paradoxes, there would, of course, be no poetry - Amichai, the lover of peace, is proud of his service in war.

Amichai, the personal, private, individualist has also written poems that are used widely at memorial services for fallen soldiers and have become part of a kind of national liturgy.

Often mentioned as a candidate for the Nobel Prize, with his wryly humane poetry, Amichai has brought the voice of modern Hebrew culture all over the world.

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